



ARUBA'S CULTURE ON DISPLAY IN DERA GAI CELEBRATION!

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STOCKS HEAD LOWER ON WALL STREET, LED BY FINANCIAL FIRMS

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, June 27, 2014



American Standard

United States' Michael Bradley, right, congratulates his teammate Jermaine Jones after qualifying for the next World Cup round following their 1-0 loss to Germany during the group G World Cup soccer match between the USA and Germany at the Arena Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, Thursday, June 26, 2014.

(AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

US Escapes 'Group of Death,' Advances to Round of 16

Aruba Today Sports: Page 17

Mad Rio hunt for tickets, scalpers dodge cops

ALAN CLENDENNING
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — After an overnight flight from the United States, Greg Thomas swigged a beer Wednesday afternoon on a sidewalk near Rio's famed Maracana stadium and raised his arm high into the air with four fingers displayed to attract scalpers who might sell him and three friends tickets to get into the Ecuador-France

this is the World Cup."

The intense search for tickets outside Maracana was a lot tougher Wednesday because police boosted security after 88 ticketless Chilean fans broke through barriers at the stadium's media entrance last week and rampaged through the press center, busting down temporary walls while trying to find a way into the stands.

As fans from around the

panying them outside the police perimeter to strike deals at a nearby gas station.

Among them was Norwegian security company manager Marten Skjelvik, who managed to get two tickets for \$900, but acknowledged taking a big risk to do so. He only had about half of the money on him and the gas station ATM didn't work with his bank card, so Skjelvik

ATM spit out money, and the men took him back to close the deal.

"I only did this because I really wanted to see the match," said Skjelvik, 32, who didn't mind paying more than the official FIFA rate because scalping "happens everywhere." Other fans, particularly from Latin American countries, were getting desperate as game time approached and they couldn't afford



In this June 18, 2014, photo, Chile soccer fans wait for scalpers, with a sign written in Spanish that reads "We buy tickets for Chile/Spain", before the starting of the group B World Cup soccer match between Spain and Chile outside the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As fans from around the world hold up hand-scrawled signs identifying themselves as ticket buyers, undercover police work the crowds as potential buyers and take into custody alleged scalpers from countries ranging from Britain to Russia accused of trying to unload tickets for prices higher than the official FIFA price range of \$90 to \$175.

(AP Photo/Bernat Armangué)

World Cup game.

They were willing to pay about \$500 each, but the asking price from scalpers working the crowds and dodging police was \$1,000 per ticket just before the game started. That didn't leave Thomas angry, but wondering whether he and his old college buddies would manage to get into a game during their reunion for a one-week Brazil soccer trip.

"Scalpers are scalpers, they're going to gouge you wherever you go," said Thomas, 33, of Denver, Colorado. "And remember,

world held up hand-scrawled signs looking for tickets, police identified scalpers by watching for tickets and money changing hands among the hordes of fans arriving at the stadium's main entrance points. They took into custody sellers from countries ranging from Britain to Russia accused of trying to unload tickets for prices higher than the official FIFA price range of \$90 to \$175.

Brazilian scalpers got creative in response, finding ticket buyers close to the stadium and then accom-

agreed to drive around Rio in a taxi with two friends of the scalper in search of an ATM that would work. Skjelvik's Norwegian friend stayed with the scalper who had the tickets.

The gas station is near a sprawling hillside Rio slum, and Skjelvik was worried that's where they were headed.

He felt safer when the cab started heading downtown, but got nervous again when his card didn't work at another ATM. The men started talking loudly among themselves in Portuguese. Finally, another

the inflated prices.

Ecuadorean discotheque manager Jonathan Maffare and five friends who came with him to Brazil had enough money to pay \$400 per ticket but were only getting offers of \$1,000 each from Brazilian scalpers. While they could have pooled their money so a few could buy tickets, a decision was made that all would go or none would. They took their anger out on Brazilian government officials who worked hard to pitch the country as a great place for the World Cup. □

Dutch agency: glitch in airplane autopilot gear

TOBY STERLING
Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The Netherlands' air safety agency says it has detected a glitch that can cause airplane autopilot systems to respond in a dangerous way when a plane is attempting a steeper than normal landing approach. In a report published Thursday, the Dutch Safety Board, which investigates disasters and potential accidents, said the glitch in some runway technology systems can cause the autopilot to pull up a plane's nose at the wrong moment during a steep approach, potentially leading to a stall.

The agency has notified airline safety organizations globally of the issue. Its investigation stemmed from a May 2013 incident at Eindhoven Airport, and it examined four similar incidents in Europe and 19 in the United States involving different aircraft, airports and airlines. Agency spokesman Wim van der Weegen said none of the incidents caused a crash. Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 major runways worldwide use an Instrument Landing System, or ILS.

Describing the problem in more detail, the Dutch agency report said the ILS sends out two radio signals, one to "fly higher" and another to "fly lower," which work together to help planes coming in for a landing center on a downward glide slope of 3 degrees.

The study found that planes coming in at a slope of between 3 and 9 degrees are correctly instructed to fly lower. But if a plane approaches above a slope of 9 degrees, instruments are liable to read a false "reverse" signal instructing them to fly up. The agency said the essence of its recommendation is that "pilots and other professionals in the aviation sector should be aware of the existence of reversed signals ... and of the response to such signals by the autopilot." □

Mourning millions: EU leaders mark WWI centennial



European Union heads of state, from left, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán, British Prime Minister David Cameron, Austrian Chancellor Werner Faymann, Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, Swedish Prime Minister Fredrik Reinfeldt, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades, Slovenian President Borut Pahor, French President François Hollande and Romanian President Traian Băsescu stand behind porcelain poppies during the inauguration of a Peace Bench at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium on Thursday, June 26, 2014. Where their countrymen once slaughtered each other with machine guns, artillery and poison gas, the leaders of Britain, Germany and the other member states of the European Union gathered Thursday to solemnly mark the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I and rededicate themselves to peace and working together.

(AP Photo/Virginia Mayo)

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — At a site where their countrymen once slaughtered each other with machine guns, artillery and poison gas, the leaders of Britain, France, Germany and other European nations commemorated the 100th anniversary of World War I and vowed Thursday to preserve peace on the continent. About half a million people died in the arduous battles in the flat, often muddy killing grounds in and around the small Belgian city of Ypres in western Flanders between 1914-18, one of the sites that reflected the savagery of what became known as "The Great War." German Chancellor Angela Merkel said holding a summit of the 28-nation European Union in the city that had to be rebuilt from scratch after World War I sends a powerful signal. "I believe this shows us again in which good times we live today, because the European Union exists and

because we have learned from history," Merkel said. World War I was unprecedented in scope and savagery: It claimed some 14 million lives — 5 million civilians and 9 million soldiers — including sailors and airmen from 28 countries, and left at least 7 million troops permanently disabled.

"We should remember those who served and why they fought ... and we should recognize that the peace we have today is something we should cherish every day," said British Prime Minister David Cameron.

Commemorating the war's 1914 start, the leaders walked through Ypres to the sound of drums to attend the "Last Post," a bugle salute to the fallen performed each evening at Menin Gate. The gate has been erected as a memorial on the main road where British and Commonwealth soldiers marched off to the front, many to never return. Summit chairman Her-

man Van Rompuy urged EU leaders to act as "the guardians of vigilance" to prevent a reoccurrence of the folly that once engulfed the continent.

"It is our task — in actions and words — to prevent the spirals and exaggerations, to maintain trust, to preserve peace," he said in a speech that used four languages.

Despite the vows of "never again," the outcome of the conflict only sowed the bitter seeds that led to World War II and more slaughter. And the nationalist tensions that set off the killing never really died — most recently resurfacing in Ukraine and Russia.

On Friday, EU leaders were planning to discuss the situation in Ukraine, which borders four EU countries and has been fighting a separatist insurgency in the east following Russia's annexation of its Crimean Peninsula. The leaders will talk with Ukrainian President Poroshenko and decide whether

the bloc will impose further sanctions against Russia for its destabilizing actions in Ukraine.

Still, in a sign of how much most of Europe has changed since nationalism caused neighbors to go to war, those who gathered on the sidelines of the Ypres summit venue cheered when Merkel arrived. Breaching protocol, she was the only leader to walk toward residents, shaking hands and commenting on how nicely the town had been rebuilt.

"Thank you for hosting us," she told several people in the crowd.

Hours before the leaders arrived, 81-year-old Arthur Siggee and his wife Audrey, from Lincolnshire, England, were searching for a relative's name on the Menin Gate memorial. He carried a photo of his uncles, three brothers who all lost their lives in battles around the Somme area.

"This might be our last trip back, we are both in our

80s, so we can't do this much more," he said.

Over dinner at Ypres, the EU leaders went back to the business of running a bloc encompassing more than 500 million people and forming the world's largest economy. They were discussing a "strategic agenda," mapping out the bloc's policy priorities for the next five years.

On Friday in Brussels, they are also set to choose their candidate to head the next EU Commission, the bloc's powerful executive arm. That rancorous issue has pitted Britain against the majority of EU nations who support the former long-time prime minister of Luxembourg, Jean-Claude Juncker.

Separately, Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said the leaders had tentatively agreed to hold another summit July 17th to nominate a successor to the bloc's foreign policy chief, Catherine Ashton, whose term expires in the fall. □



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Supreme Court strikes down abortion clinic buffer zones

ADAM LIPTAK

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WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court on Thursday unanimously struck down a Massachusetts law that

barred protests near abortion clinics.

The law, enacted in 2007, created 35-foot buffer zones around entrances to abortion clinics. State

officials said the law was a response to a history of harassment and violence at abortion clinics in Massachusetts, including a shooting rampage at two facilities in 1994.

The law was challenged on First Amendment grounds by opponents of abortion who said they sought to have quiet conversations

with women entering clinics to tell them about alternatives to abortion.

The court was unanimous about the bottom line but divided on the reasoning. Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. wrote a relatively narrow majority opinion. He was joined by justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen G. Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. He suggested that the state could pursue other alternatives. Justice Antonin Scalia, in a concurrence joined by justices Anthony M. Kennedy and Clarence Thomas, said the majority's approach was too tentative. The law, he said, is "unconstitutional root and branch."

Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. filed a separate concurrence.

In 2000, the Supreme Court upheld a similar Colorado law in *Hill v. Colorado*. That law established 100-foot buffer zones outside all health care facilities, not just abortion clinics. □



Reporters run past anti-abortion demonstrators outside of the Supreme Court with a copy of the decision striking down abortion clinic buffer zones, in Washington, June 26, 2014. The Supreme Court on Thursday unanimously struck down a Massachusetts law that barred protests near abortion clinics.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

Justices curb president's power on recess appointments

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court on Thursday dealt a significant blow to executive power, cutting back on the president's power to issue recess appointments during brief breaks in the Senate's work. The court ruled unanimously that President Barack Obama had violated the Constitution in 2012 by appointing officials to the National Labor Relations Board during a short break in the Senate's work when the chamber was convening every three days in short pro forma sessions when no business was conducted. Those breaks were too short, Justice Stephen

G. Breyer wrote in a majority opinion joined by the court's four more liberal members.

Breyer added that recess appointments remain permissible so long as they are made during a break of 10 or more days. But many experts say that if either house of Congress is controlled by the party opposed to the president, lawmakers can effectively block such appointments by requiring pro forma sessions every three days. Each house must get the approval of the other chamber for recesses of more than three days.

Still, Obama and the presidents who will succeed him avoided a far broader loss, one that could have limited

recess appointments to breaks between Congress' formal annual sessions and even then to vacancies that arose during those breaks. That was the approach embraced by the court's four more conservative members.

Justice Antonin Scalia issued a caustic statement from the bench.

"The majority practically bends over backwards to ensure that recess appointments will remain a powerful weapon in the president's arsenal," he said.

The decision affirmed a broad ruling last year from a federal appeals court in Washington that had called into question the constitutionality of many

recess appointments by presidents of both parties.

The immediate practical significance of Thursday's decision was undercut by the Senate's recent overhaul of its filibuster rules and by the Senate's confirmation of a different slate of nominees to the labor board. Republican filibusters had frustrated the Obama administration and prompted its recess appointments.

But the constitutional ruling, involving the balance of power between the president and the Senate, was nonetheless momentous. The Constitution's recess-appointments clause says, "The president shall have power to fill up all vacan-

cies that may happen during the recess of the Senate." Analyzing that language, a three-judge panel of the appeals court last year said that presidents may bypass the Senate only during the recesses between formal sessions of Congress. Two of the judges went further, saying that presidents may fill only vacancies that arose during that same recess.

The case arose from a labor dispute involving a soft-drink bottling company, Noel Canning. The labor board ruled against the company, saying it had engaged in an unfair labor practice by refusing to enter into a collective bargaining agreement. □

Feds: Immigrant center to expedite deportations

JUAN CARLOS LLORCA

Associated Press

ARTESIA, New Mexico (AP)

— A detention center being opened in southeastern New Mexico to deal with the surge in women

a senior U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement official said the goal is to process the immigrants and have them deported within 10 to 15 days to send a message back to their

thousands of Central American immigrant children and women seeking to enter the U.S. Because officials had run out of room at holding facilities, they began releasing immigrant

ing families and deporting those who don't have permission to enter the U.S. legally.

Artesia Mayor Phillip Burch said he was told by federal officials that the detention center will likely be in operation for six months to a year, although he thinks it could stay open longer than that.

Last week, the Obama administration announced plans to convert the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center into one of several temporary sites being established to deal with the influx of women and children fleeing gang violence and poverty in Central American.

Border Patrol agents have apprehended more than 52,000 immigrant children

crossing the border alone since October.

The Artesia center will only house children caught traveling with their mothers or other female relatives. Unaccompanied minors will continue to be turned over to the Department of Health and Human Services. The center will hold nearly 700 people in a barracks-style setting, with 30 rooms per building, four bunk beds per room. Each of the three buildings will have one room as playground and one for medical staff. The buildings have a refrigerator that will be stocked with water, milk and fruit so the children will be able to eat whenever they want. There will be toys, video games and televisions for the kids.



A federal employee unloads a crib outside of the barracks for law enforcement trainees turned into immigrant detention center at the Federal Law Enforcement Center (FLETC) in Artesia, N.M., Thursday, June 26, 2014. Federal officials say this federal training center that is home to the Border Patrol Academy that will become a 672-bed detention center for adult immigrants who entered the country illegally and are accompanied by children.

(AP Photo/Juan Carlos Llorca)

caught crossing illegally with children into the U.S. from Central America will be focused on deporting the immigrants quickly, officials said Thursday.

During a media tour of the austere federal law enforcement training center turned immigration jail,

home countries that there are consequences for illegal immigration. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to talk publicly citing agency policy.

About a month ago, border patrol agents were suddenly overwhelmed by

families and requiring them to report back within 15 days.

With this new facility, women found crossing with children will not be released, but held and quickly processed, a step toward returning the department to its policy of not releas-

Senate panel OKs homeland security budget

ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)

— A key Senate panel Thursday gave swift bipartisan approval to a \$47 billion budget for the Department of Homeland Security, boosting funding to cope with an influx of Central American children who arrive in the U.S. unaccompanied by their parents.

The Appropriations Committee approved the measure by voice vote after a brief hearing. The measure comes as the once-promising pace of the annual appropriations cycle is slowing. A procedural battle stalled an effort to bring a measure funding

several other Cabinet departments to a floor vote and several contentious bills have seen committee consideration delayed.

The bill boosts the administration's request for the Customs Service and Border Patrol for initial handling of unaccompanied immigrant children arriving on the southern border by \$77 million.

The measure also includes a provision to increase the fee paid by travelers who enter the U.S. by commercial sea and air carriers by \$2 to \$9, using the revenue to pay for 1,000 new customs agents.

The measure funds the government's newest

Cabinet department and is free of contentious issues that dot many of the other 11 spending bills. It increases the budget for Customs and Border Protection by 4 percent and increases funding for detention of people entering the country illegally.

It also contains several provisions of interest to the bill's chief author, Sen. Mary Landrieu, a Louisiana Democrat who faces a difficult re-election campaign this fall, including \$318 million to build six fast response Coast Guard cutters at Bollinger Shipyards in her home state instead of the two requested by the Obama administration.

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Tea Party: Losses don't stop cash or curb influence

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conservative, anti-tax tea party groups have spent millions of dollars on this year's Republican primaries only to fall short in election after election. Yet for all the losses — from Kentucky to Mississippi — business for the tea party movement has never been better.

Republicans need to gain six seats in November's midterm elections to take control of the Senate for the final two years of President Barack Obama's second term, a feat that's within reach in a year when many Democratic incumbents face dire poll numbers and are being vastly outspent by outside

In all, tea party-aligned groups that must disclose their finances have raised almost \$42 million since January 2013. They have spent more than \$40 million but have no real wins. Mainstream Republican Senate candidates brushed aside tea party-backed candidates in North Carolina, South Car-



Chris McDaniel addresses his supporters after falling behind in a heated GOP primary runoff election against incumbent U.S. Senator Thad Cochran on Tuesday June 24, 2014 at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg, Miss.

(AP Photo/George Clark)

The lack of success at the ballot box ahead of this year's midterm congressional elections hasn't kept the insurgent movement from raising huge sums of money and continuing to pull the Republican Party to the right. Republican lawmakers who previously compromised with Democrats on spending, among other issues, now refuse to budge — even if it means shutting down the government and risking a default on the nation's debt. Those facts are frustrating mainstream Republicans, who on Wednesday implored tea party activists to rethink the money they are giving to anti-establishment groups such as Club for Growth, FreedomWorks and the Senate Conservatives Fund. All three backed the failed bid of Chris McDaniel, a Mississippi state senator, to oust U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran after six terms in office.

conservative groups. "How much money did we spend in Mississippi that could have been spent picking up the majority?" asked Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, who had to beat back six challengers in his own primary earlier this month. But before the tea party groups turn their full attention to Democrats, they are in the midst of spending a staggering amount of money in the Republican primaries to benefit insurgent conservatives against party incumbents. Tea party-aligned groups spent almost \$7.2 million on McDaniel's failed bid to deny Cochran a seventh term in the Senate. The anti-tax Club for Growth and its affiliated PAC were the largest outside spenders in Mississippi, spending more than \$3.1 million to help McDaniel. Of that, \$2.4 million went to messages attacking Cochran.

olina, Texas, Colorado and other states. The tea party was likely energized by the stunning victory of obscure college professor David Brat over Republican Majority Leader Eric Cantor in a House of Representatives primary in Virginia, though Brat was only loosely affiliated with the movement. In Mississippi, McDaniel initially gained more votes Cochran in the state's primary, but McDaniel failed to win the outright majority required to avoid a runoff. Undeterred by how that runoff ended, tea party activists are now looking ahead to support anti-establishment candidates in Tennessee, Kansas and Alaska. Even without a big-time win this year, the 5-year-old tea party movement can unquestionably claim credit for accelerating a rightward drift among congressional Republicans. □

New York City ban on big sodas is rejected by court

MICHAEL M. GRYNBAUM
© 2014 New York Times

The state's highest court Thursday refused to reinstate New York City's limits on sales of jumbo sugary drinks, exhausting the city's final appeal and handing a major victory to the U.S. soft-drink industry, which bitterly opposed the plan.

In a 20-page opinion, Judge Eugene F. Pigott Jr. of the New York state Court of Appeals wrote that the city's Board of Health "exceeded the scope of its regulatory authority" in enacting the proposal, which was championed by former Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg.

Two lower courts had already ruled against the city, saying it overreached in trying to prohibit the purchase of sugared drinks in containers larger than 16 ounces, about the size of a medium coffee cup. Ruling 4-2, the Court of Appeals upheld the earlier rulings.

Mayor Bill de Blasio, a frequent critic of Bloomberg but a supporter of the soda proposal, said he was "extremely disappointed" by the latest decision, saying it was "irrefutable" that sugary drinks have detrimental effects on health. The mayor said he would review other options for the city to combat obesity, but his team did not immediately specify what steps might be taken. In the ruling, the judges said the City Council was the proper body to enact a policy of such sweep and complexity as the soda limits. The council speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito, opposes the proposal, and she said Thursday that she was pleased with the court's decision.

The Court of Appeals ruling will most likely be seen as a significant defeat for public health advocates who have urged state and local governments to discourage the consumption of high-calorie beverages, saying the drinks are prime drivers of a nationwide epidemic of obesity.

And it could also have long-term implications for the powers of the Board of Health, the agency that has been the primary engine behind high-profile health initiatives like banning trans fats in restaurants and posting calorie counts on menus.

In a blistering dissent of the opinion, Judge Susan P. Read wrote that the ruling ignored decades of precedent in which the Board of Health was given broad purview to address public health matters, such as regulating the city's water supply and banning the use of lead paint in homes.

The opinion, Read wrote, "misapprehends, mischaracterizes and thereby curtails the powers of the New York City Board of Health to address the public health threats of the early 21st century."

One judge in the majority, Sheila Abdus-Salaam, seemed to share those concerns, writing in a separate concurrence that "no one should read today's decision too broadly."

Dr. Mary T. Bassett, the city's health commissioner, said in a statement that the ruling "does not change the fact that sugary-drink consumption is a key driver of the obesity epidemic."

"We will continue to look for ways to stem the twin epidemics of obesity and Type 2 diabetes by seeking to limit the pernicious effects of aggressive and predatory marketing of sugary drinks and unhealthy foods," Bassett said.

Bloomberg's proposal, which polls showed was opposed by a majority of New Yorkers, set off a global debate over soda consumption. It also prompted panic among powerful beverage companies, who feared that their products could be widely branded as a threat to public health. □

US Financial Front:

Consumer spending in May was disappointingly weak

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumers boosted their spending only modestly in May, a disappointment to economists who said the weaker-than-expected gain will likely mean a lesser economic rebound in the April-June quarter than many had envisioned. Spending rose just 0.2 percent last month after no gain in April, the Commerce Department said Thursday. The two months followed a robust spending surge of 0.8 percent in March.

Income rose a solid 0.4 percent in May after a 0.3 percent April gain. Last month's 0.2 percent gain in spending was just half the increase that analysts had been expecting. Some said that unless June brings a big increase, spending may not provide as much support to the economy in the second half of the year as they had been expecting.

Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said consumer spending may end up rising at an annual rate of 1.7 percent in the April-June quarter, which he said "wouldn't

be much of a rebound" from the sluggish 1 percent growth in consumer spending last quarter.

Consumer spending is closely watched because it accounts for about 70 percent of economic activity.

Dales said strength in other areas should still lift economic growth to around a 3 percent annual rate in the current quarter after a dismal 2.9 percent annual decline in economic output in the first three months of the year.

Jennifer Lee, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, agreed that the spending figure was pointing to economic growth of around 3 percent in the second quarter, instead of the 3.8 percent she had earlier forecast.

An inflation gauge that's closely monitored by the Federal Reserve has risen 1.8 percent over the past 12 months through May, the fastest rise since late 2012 but still below the Fed's 2 percent target.

In May, spending on durable goods jumped 0.7 percent, a rebound after having fallen 0.9 percent in April. In May, auto dealers reported their best sales



Conquisia Tyler, right, gives change to a customer at Sam's Club in Bentonville, Ark. The Commerce Department released personal income and spending for May on Thursday, June 26, 2014. (AP Photo/Sarah Benthall)

month in nine years, helped by brisk demand for SUVs and pickup trucks.

Sales of nondurable goods rose 0.2 percent in May after a stronger 0.4 percent April gain, while spending on services such as rent and utilities increased a modest 0.1 percent.

The inflation gauge the Fed watches edged up 0.2 percent in May. The 1.8 per-

cent increase over the past 12 months was up from a 12-month increase of 1.6 percent in April and increases of 1 percent or less for much of the past year. But the Fed at its meeting last week expressed no concerns about the slight uptick in inflation. It was a signal to financial markets that the Fed is comfortable keeping interest rates at re-

cord low levels for now to give the economy a boost. Many analysts believe the Fed's first rate hike will not occur until the summer of 2015. The government reported Wednesday that overall economic growth, as measured by the gross domestic product, shrank at an annual rate of 2.9 percent in the January-March quarter. □



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Helpful or Creepy: A Reach Too Far by Google?

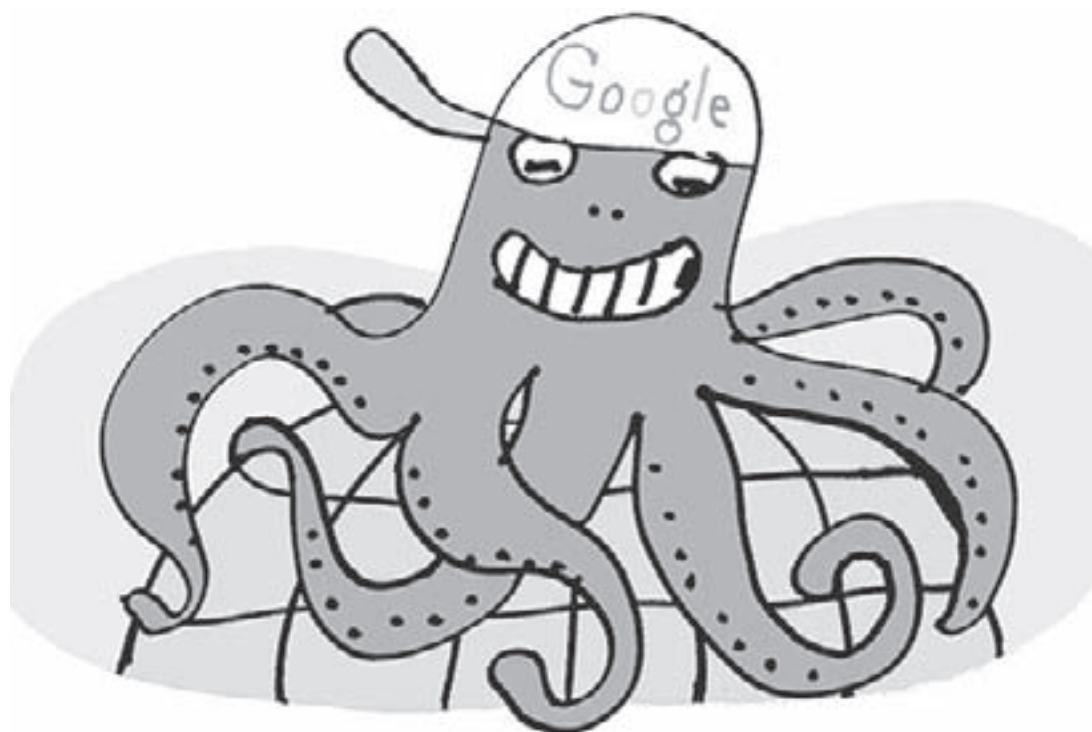
FARHAD MANJOO

© 2014 New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO - One way to think of Google is as an extremely helpful, all-knowing, hyper-intelligent executive assistant. Already, it can remind you about your flight, open up your boarding pass when you get to the airport and offer you driving directions to your hotel when you land.

If what the company showed off at an event for developers last Wednesday is a true vision of our future, Google's software will soon reach ever further into our lives, sitting on just about every other device you encounter. The software will be available to help you look up any bit of idle curiosity or accomplish any task, anytime you desire.

It's an extremely far-reaching agenda - and that may be the company's problem. For a company whose future depends on people voluntarily handing over their information in return for handy online services, Google's very ambitions



Google, with its globe-spanning reach, may be trying to do so much that it risks becoming creepy instead of helpful as the company's software permeates more and more aspects of people's daily lives.

(Stuart Goldenberg/The New York Times)

may now stand as its biggest hurdle. Is Google, in its globe-spanning reach, trying to do so much that it risks becoming creepy instead of helpful - the assistant who got too powerful and knows too much? "I think technology is

changing people's lives a lot, and we're feeling it," Larry Page, Google's co-founder and chief executive, said in an interview at the event in San Francisco on Wednesday.

Page described Android and Chrome, the company's mobile operating system and Web browser, as a kind of glue that will connect all of the devices we will use in the future. "We've been talking about a multiscreen world for a long time," Page said. "I think you see it culminating in something that's a great experience across lots of different kinds of devices, from the watch to the TV to the laptop to the tablet to the phone."

But Page conceded that the novelty and scope of these devices might breed worries among users. "Everyone can tell that their lives are going to be affected, but we don't quite know how yet, because we're not using these things - and because of that there's a lot of uncertainty," he said.

Google's keynote event Wednesday, an affair largely geared toward programmers who are fans of Google, was interrupted by protesters. One blamed some of the firm's executives for evicting lo-

cal tenants, while another claimed that Google's recent robotics acquisitions made it dangerous. "You all work for a totalitarian company that builds robots that kill people!" he yelled before being escorted out by security.

Page, who was joined in the interview by Sundar Pichai, the executive in charge of Google's Android and Chrome software projects, did not seem overly bothered by the outbursts. "We're in San Francisco, so we expect that," Page said of the protests. "There's a rich history of protest in San Francisco."

Pichai pointed out that the company had introduced initiatives to improve its relationship with city residents. This year, it gave \$600,000 to the city to roll out free Wi-Fi service in San Francisco parks. "I think in some ways it's good that there's an open debate about it and I think we needed it," Pichai said. "There's been a lot of growth and the area is trying to adapt to that growth and that has been a concern."

More broadly, Page argued that people's instinctive reactions to new technologies were often negative. Once we see the utility in the new stuff, we often realize that it isn't as

scary as we once thought - and soon may realize we can't live without it. "In the early days of Street View, this was a huge issue, but it's not really a huge issue now," Page said of the company's project to send a fleet of cars across the globe to snap photographs of public roadways. "People understand it now and it's very useful," he said. "And it doesn't really change your privacy that much. A lot of these things are like that."

Many of Google's new services will improve how our computers work by combining personal data and information gathered from sensors to create what the company called "context aware" experiences.

"Today, computing mainly automates things for you, but when we connect all these things, you can truly start assisting people in a more meaningful way," Pichai said. He suggested a way for Android on people's smartphones to interact with Android in their cars. "If I go and pick up my kids, it would be good for my car to be aware that my kids have entered the car and change the music to something that's appropriate for them," Pichai said.

"Or look at the unlocking that we showed," Page said, referring to a system in which your computer detects that your watch is nearby, then lets you start using it without typing in a passcode. "It just makes a lot of sense," Page said. "That's a big hassle today." If these features sound small to you, it may be because Google is in the early stages of exploring the benefits we will get from combining many different devices into a single, hyperaware computing system. It is certainly not alone in that effort, either. The "Internet of Things" has become the latest annoying catchphrase in the industry, and Apple is widely expected to enter the fray soon with a smartwatch. But Google may be in the best position to make sense of the chaotic. □



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Iraqi Shiites pushing for al-Maliki's removal

HAMZA HENDAWI
QASSIM ZAHRA
Associated Press Writers

BAGHDAD (AP) — Prominent Shiite leaders pushed Thursday for the removal of Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki as parliament prepared to start work next week on putting together a new government, under intense U.S. pressure to rapidly form a united front against an unrelenting Sunni insurgent onslaught. Increasingly, the Shiite al-Maliki's former allies believe he cannot lead an inclusive government that can draw minority Sunnis away from support for the fighters who have swept over a large swath of Iraq as they head toward the capital, Baghdad. In a further sign of Iraq's unraveling along sectarian lines, a bombing on Thursday killed 12 people in a Shiite neighborhood of Baghdad that houses a revered shrine, and police found the bullet-riddled bodies of eight Sunnis south of the capital. Most crucially, though, backing for al-Maliki is weakening with his most important ally, neighboring Iran.

A senior Iranian general who met with Shiite politicians in Iraq during a 10-day visit this month returned home with a list of potential prime minister candidates for Iran's leadership to consider, several senior Iraqi Shiite politicians who have knowledge of the general's meetings told The Associated Press. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, wants al-Maliki to remain in his post, at least for now, the politicians said, but the politicians said, but Iran's moderate president, Hassan Rouhani, believes al-Maliki must go or else Iraq will fragment. Khamenei

holds final say in all state matters in Iran, but the politicians expressed doubt he would insist on al-Maliki against overwhelming rejection of him by Iraq's Shiite parties. The general, Ghasem Soleimani, is expected to return within days to inform Iraqi politicians of Tehran's favorite, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the internal deliberations. Iran's Shiite cleric-led government succeeded in herding reluctant Shiite parties into backing al-Maliki for a second term four years ago, and its leverage over Iraq's Shiite political establishment has grown significantly since the 2011 withdrawal of U.S. troops after an eight-year presence. Non-Arab and mostly Shiite, Iran has found in majority Shiite Iraq a convenient vehicle to extend its sphere of regional influence to the heart of the Middle East. Iran's leverage in Iraq also gives it a trump card against its Sunni rivals in the

Gulf region, where powerhouse Saudi Arabia, for example, has traditionally viewed Tehran with suspicion.

The United States and its allies are pushing for the creation of a government that

can draw support among Iraq's Sunni minority, which has been alienated by al-Maliki, seen as a fiercely partisan Shiite.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague, meeting with al-Maliki in Baghdad on

Thursday, told a news conference that "we believe the urgent priority must be to form an inclusive government ... that can command the support of all Iraqis and work to stop terrorists and their terrible crimes." □



British Foreign Secretary William Hague, center, walks to a press conference in Baghdad, Iraq, Thursday, June 26, 2014. Hague, meeting with al-Maliki in Baghdad, told a news conference that "we believe the urgent priority must be to form an inclusive government ... that can command the support of all Iraqis and work to stop terrorists and their terrible crimes."

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim)

APNewsBreak:

US ends Philippines anti-terror force

JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — After more than a decade of helping fight Islamic militants, the United States is disbanding an anti-terror contingent of hundreds of elite American troops in the southern Philippines where armed groups such as Abu Sayyaf have largely been crippled, officials said Thursday.

But special forces from the U.S. Pacific Command, possibly in smaller numbers, will remain after the deactivation of the Joint Special



U.S. and Philippine marines storm the beach to simulate a raid during the joint U.S.-Philippines military exercise dubbed Balikatan 2014 at the Naval Training Exercise Command, a former US naval base, and facing the South China Sea at San Antonio township, Zambales province northwest of Manila, Philippines.

(AP Photo/Bullit Marquez)

Operations Task Force Philippines (JSOTF-P), to ensure al-Qaida offshoots such as Abu Sayyaf and the Indonesia-based Jemaah Islamiyah do not regain lost ground, according to U.S. and Philippine officials.

The move marks a new chapter in the long-running battle against an al-Qaida-inspired movement in the southern Philippines, viewed by the U.S. as a key front in the global effort to keep terrorists at bay.

Continued on page 27

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Thousands flee Ukraine for Russia; truce nears end



People stand at their cars waiting in line to leave Ukraine at the Ukrainian-Russian border checkpoint in Izvaryne, Luhansk region, eastern Ukraine Thursday, June 26, 2014. Thousands of Ukrainians in cars stuffed with belongings lined up Thursday at the eastern border to cross into Russia, with some saying they felt betrayed by their government and vowing never to return.

(AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

BALINT SZLANKO
Associated Press

IZVARYNE, Ukraine (AP)

— As a shaky cease-fire in the east entered its final hours Thursday, thousands of Ukrainians in cars stuffed with belongings lined up at the border to cross into Russia, some vowing never to return.

Many said they were most

frightened for their children and desperate to take them to safety.

A commander at the rebel-controlled border post outside the city of Luhansk said 5,000 people had left by evening, joining a stream that he said has continued unabated during the weeklong truce that has failed to end the gunfire

and shelling.

Russia says tens of thousands of Ukrainians have come in the 2 1/2 months since Ukraine's government began fighting separatists in the east, a heavily industrial region with a large population of ethnic Russians, many of whom feel strong ties to Moscow. Air strikes and artillery at-

tacks by the Ukrainian military have infuriated many residents, and many crossing the border on Thursday said they were fleeing the fighting, which has killed more than 400 people since mid-April by the United Nations' estimate.

Those who talked to Associated Press journalists, however, said nothing to indicate that they supported the armed separatists, who have seized government buildings,

declared independence and asked Russia to annex the region.

With the cease-fire set to expire on Friday, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko called on Russia to support his peace plan "with deeds, not words." He urged Moscow to stop the flow of fighters from Russia. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said they, too, were looking for more action from Moscow ahead of a summit on Friday of European Union leaders, who will be considering a new round of sanctions against Russia.

"It is critical for Russia to

show in the next hours, literally, that they're moving to help disarm the separatists, to encourage them to disarm," Kerry said in Paris.

The summit also will see Ukraine sign a sweeping trade agreement with the EU that will bind it more closely to the West.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has urged Poroshenko to extend the truce and hold talks with the separatists in the eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

Poroshenko announced Thursday that representatives of the mutinous regions have agreed to talks with Russian,

Ukrainian and European envoys. It will be the second round of talks since Monday in which the rebel leaders have participated. Russian news agencies quoted Andrei Purgin, a leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, as saying the next round would be held Friday in Donetsk.

Poroshenko has shown no willingness to extend the cease-fire, and his next step may hinge on the outcome of the talks. □

North Korea fires 3 short-range projectiles

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— North Korea fired three short-range projectiles Thursday into the waters off its east coast in a possible move to stoke tensions with Seoul, a South Korean defense official said. Pyongyang's military later criticized alleged South Korean shelling in disputed waters. The South Korean official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of department rules, said the projectiles flew about 190 kilometers (120 miles) before harmlessly landing in the water. The projectiles

were fired from North Korea's eastern port city of Wonsan, and the South Korean military was investigating the type of projectiles and the North's intentions, the official said.

Later Thursday, North Korea's army, while not mentioning its own projectiles, released a statement in state media saying South Korea had fired shells without notice into the North's waters from a front-line island near a Yellow Sea boundary that Pyongyang bitterly disputes.

The North Korean army in

the front-line area is "full of the strong will of retaliation to punish the provocateurs to the last one by giving vent to their pent-up grudge," the statement said. "What they are waiting for is only the order to be given."

Short-range test firings by North Korea aren't unusual, but a barrage of missile and artillery tests earlier this year boosted animosity between the rivals. A North Korean artillery attack in 2010 killed four South Koreans on a front-line Yellow Sea island. □



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In socialist Venezuela, a threat from the left

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Already grappling with street protests led by the right, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro is facing a new threat from an unlikely place: old-school leftists who accuse him of betraying the socialist legacy that carried him to power.

Maduro was tapped by Hugo Chavez as his preferred successor to the presidency, and is quick to invoke the late leader's name, but orthodox socialists are grumbling over liberalized currency reforms they say are counter to the revolution.

The tensions came to a head last week when Maduro fired Planning Minister Jorge Giordani, a Marxist economist whose Spartan lifestyle and anti-capitalist doctrine earned him the nickname "the Monk." Giordani is not going into forced retirement quietly.

In a lengthy tract published on several websites, he has accused Maduro of undoing Chavez's gains and failing to control his administration, implying corruption and incompetence. It is, he said, "painful and alarming to see a Presidency that does not convey leadership."

This high-profile criticism joins with public complaints from union representatives and former Chavez advisers who have turned Aporeta, a popular pro-government website for policy discussion, into a forum for increasingly blunt attacks on the presidency.

Charges that Maduro is mishandling Chavez's legacy have the potential to do real damage. The former bus driver and union leader squeaked out a narrow electoral victory

by riding the tide of admiration and mourning that followed Chavez's death from cancer last year.

If Maduro loses support of the ideological left, he will

ic chaos, said Max Cameron, a political scientist at the University of British Columbia.

"This is one of his biggest problems," Cameron said.

in office: Opposition protests have left 43 dead by the official count; Venezuela's bolivar has lost more than half its value during his term; and essential items

rency has forced many of Venezuela's largest automakers to halt operations because they're unable to import parts. The lack of work has emboldened a coalition of auto workers, who last week wrote to Maduro warning they would defend their right to their jobs as fervently as they have defended the revolution.

Even pro-government militias are joining the chorus of complaints. Earlier this month, a coalition of so-called "colectivos" issued a press release calling on Venezuela's socialist party to choose its leaders more democratically. Mexico-based economist Heinz Dieterich, a one-time close Chavez advisor, posted an open letter Tuesday saying Giordani's positions may have been outdated, but that doesn't mean the administration will be better off without him.

"The workers are starting to despair and become radicalized because of the ineptitude and inaction of the government," he wrote. There are signs that Maduro supporters are moving to quell the critics.



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, center, leads a workshop for state workers in front of a banner showing Maduro, left, and Venezuela's former President Hugo Chavez and reads in Spanish "Workshop: Maximum Socialist Effectiveness. State companies in the construction of the new economic order," at the headquarters of Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA) oil company in Caracas, Venezuela.

(AP Photo/Alejandro Cegarra)

be hard-pressed to continue reforms aimed at extracting the country from a widening spiral of econom-

That's saying a lot. Maduro is confronting a host of troubles as he moves into his second year

such as toilet paper and flour have become impossible to find with any regularity. A lack of foreign cur-

Man wounds 11 in Bolivia airport knife attack

CARLOS VALDEZ
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP)

An emotionally disturbed farmer wielding a kitchen knife went on a rampage in the terminal of the La Paz international airport Thursday, stabbing 11 people, authorities said.

Hospital officials said most of the wounds did not appear to be life-threatening although eight of the victims were hospitalized. They said one woman underwent surgery for an

abdominal wound and another had a punctured liver.

Among the wounded was the police lieutenant who detained the man.

Deputy Interior Minister Jorge Perez said the attacker told police he "heard voices" and went on the attack to defend himself.

"The man arrived from a village. He is mentally ill and he approached a ticket sales counter and began to attack" passengers who

had lined up to board local flights, said Perez.

Police identified the attacker as Javier Virgilio Cusi, a 41-year-old ethnic Aymara from the highlands town of Santa Rosa.

"The man has mental problems. He gives incoherent accounts. He says he confused his victims with hens," police commander Adolfo Cardenas said.

All of the victims were Bolivians, and most were female passengers, officials said. One of the wounded told

PAT television that the attacker struck many victims in the back.

Cusi's court-appointed lawyer, Monica Irusta, said that he had been undergoing psychiatric treatment and that a psychological exam had been ordered. She said his declarations were incoherent. At one point, she added, Cusi said he went to the airport to meet with God. At another, he said he went to sell domestic animals, she said.

Stalemate over safety in Bangladesh factories

STEVEN GREENHOUSE
JULFIKAR ALI MANIK
© 2014 New York Times

Eight times now, the European-dominated Accord on Fire and Building Safety in Bangladesh - a group of more than 150 retailers and brands - has forced the temporary closing of garment factories after its inspectors found dangerous conditions.

But from the time the inspections began, tensions have been growing between the Accord and the Bangladeshi apparel industry, resulting in an impasse over a recent attempt to shutter what the Accord considers an unsafe factory building that houses Florence Fashions. And this time, as on several previous occasions, the Bangladeshi government has aligned with a garment manufacturer opposed to having its factory closed, even temporarily. The series of inspections through more than 1,000 of the country's apparel factories has been emotionally freighted from the start, with workers, manufacturers, building owners and government officials watching the process with conflicting sentiments.

Of course, many Bangladeshis recognize the need for these inspections, and for some dangerous factories to be closed, as part of a broad-based effort to prevent another disaster like the Rana Plaza building collapse that killed 1,129 workers in April 2013. But factory closings can have immediate economic effect. Some factory owners worry about losing large and profitable orders to other companies and countries, and garment workers themselves fear losing their jobs. In one of the first closings after an Accord inspection, workers took to the streets in a raucous demonstration, protesting that their wages might not be paid.

Created a little more than a year ago to ensure worker safety in Bangladesh, the Accord has moved at a steady pace with inspections. It has hired 110 engineers and inspected

775 factories for structural soundness, unsafe electrical boxes, adequate fire exits and sprinkler systems - a new requirement for factory buildings 75 feet or taller.

Somewhat paralleling the Accord, two dozen U.S. and Canadian companies, including Wal-Mart and Gap, have formed the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety. That group has inspected 601 factories, and has had five of them fully or partly closed

managers quickly agreed to close until recommended safety improvements were made.

But Florence declined to close, although it complied with the Accord's request to cease making goods for any Accord member - like Mavi, a Turkish company - produced there. Florence has continued production for other, non-Accord buyers.

Rob Wayss, the Accord's executive director for Bangladesh, said his group -

down the factory instantly without giving any solution," Islam said in an interview this week at his factory. "The Accord did not give us any report after inspecting our factory. They did not give us any notice after the inspection." Accord officials said they had met face-to-face with Florence's executives and sent them emails describing the problems. Islam said factories in the building had removed their storage loads after inspectors



A building home to Florence Fashions, a garment factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh, June 25, 2014. The Accord on Fire and Building Safety has tried to have the site temporarily closed over safety concerns, but relations between the European-dominated collective of clothes retailers and the Bangladeshi government has grown increasingly strained.

(Khaled Hasan/The New York Times)

because of the safety problems found, its officials say.

But in numerous cases where hazardous conditions were uncovered, the groups have confronted considerable resistance to closing a factory building altogether, and to the notion that a building should be closed as soon as possible.

In the case that has caused friction these past several months, a 10-story building in Dhaka containing Florence Fashions houses five factories, two of which produce garments for retailers that belong to the Accord: Florence, with 800 employees, and Cherry Private Limited.

Engineers at the Accord originally called for the factories in the building to be closed after they inspected Cherry - and Cherry's

which includes H&M, Carrefour and many other prominent companies - has been trying to get the factory closed since an inspection in March.

The engineers "determined that in its current state, the building wasn't safe for people to be in," Wayss said.

Brad Loewen, the chief inspector for the Accord, put it in more dire terms, saying that he feared a collapse could occur.

"The exact safety problem was too much weight, too much of a load, on the support columns," he said. But Florence's director, Mohammad Monirul Islam, said in an interview that the Accord had never formally presented his company with papers specifying what safety problems were uncovered.

"The Accord told us to shut

said the loads needed to be reduced immediately.

"When there's a structural inspection, when the building is found to be unsafe, it's unsafe for everyone in the building," Wayss said. "The building should be evacuated for everyone." The Accord called on a Bangladeshi government review panel to confirm its recommendation that Florence Fashions be closed, but Accord officials said the government declined to order a shutdown even though the panel agreed with the findings.

In an interview, Syed Ahmed, the inspector general for Bangladesh's Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments, said his department had not received the proper request and records from the Accord to justify closing Florence. □

Bolivia:

Rebels at rightist timepieces, flips clock backwards

CARLOS VALDEZ
Associated Press

LA PAZ, Bolivia (AP) — Bolivia's leftist government is turning back the clock. Or, more precisely, turning it backward.

The government this week flipped the clock atop the Congress building so that while it's accurate, the hands now turn to the left, a direction known elsewhere as counterclockwise.

Foreign Minister David Choquehuanca announced the modification Tuesday. He said it was only logical that a clock in the Southern Hemisphere should turn in the opposite direction of a Northern Hemisphere clock.

The president of Congress, Marcelo Elio, on Wednesday called the reform "a clear expression of the decolonization of the people" under President Evo Morales, who became the country's first indigenous president when he won office in 2005 and is up for re-election in October.

Vice President Alvaro Garcia said the government is thinking about similarly modifying all clocks at public institutions.

He recalled that during an open-air Cabinet meeting, Choquehuanca placed a stick in the ground and showed that the sun's shadow rotated counterclockwise around it. Garcia called the display "mind opening."

Political opponents denounced the move.

Opposition lawmaker Norma Pierola said the government "wishes to change the universal laws of time." Samuel Doria Medina, the cement and fast-food magnate expected to be Morales' main challenger in October, called the switch a sign "that things are regressing." Victor Hugo Cardenas, a former vice president and, like Morales, a member of the Aymara people, said it's true that when the Aymara meet, they form a circle and greet each other in counterclockwise order. □



Aruba's Culture Showcased in Dera Gai Celebration!



NOORD - A much-loved Aruban tradition, a local holiday by the name of Dera Gai celebrating the Feast of Saint John, was presented to visitors staying at Caribbean Palm Village Resort this week, as part of the weekly Manager's Cocktail Party. Every year on June 24, the nativity day of St. John the Baptist, bonfires are lit all across the Island to herald the arrival of a unique folkloric festival known as Dera Gai. Dera Gai is filled with



both pagan and Catholic symbolism, reflecting the influences of the island's indigenous Arawak natives and the Spanish missionaries, two cultures blending and fusing into a cultural heritage. During traditional

celebrations of this festival, blindfolded revelers are given three tries, using a long pole, to decapitate a rooster buried up to its neck in the ground. At community centers today, a more humane approach to the

ritual is taken in the form of a game wherein blindfolded players try to locate a flag staked into the ground while shimmying to music. Decked out in traditional yellow-and-red costumes, folk groups also perform

several harvest dances, including the intricate ribbon dance, and guests at Caribbean Palm Village Resort were privileged to see the charming cultural tradition in action, this past Tuesday. The resort often includes

folkloric and cultural shows in its weekly Manager's Cocktail Party allowing guests insight into island life, song and dance. Our pictures attest to the colorful show at the resort. □

Cindy & Jesse De Masi Honored as Goodwill Ambassadors



EAGLE BEACH - Recently, Cindy De Masi and her Son, Jesse De Masi from New York were honored as Goodwill Ambassadors after returning to Aruba for 20 consecutive years. The symbolic honorary title is

presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more years consecutive.

Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing Aruba Tour-

ism Authority conducted the ceremony at the Costa Linda Resort. Top reasons for returning year after year provided by the honorees were Aruba's beaches, and relaxing with friends and family. q



Aruba Rotary Club celebrates its community donation night



ORANJESTAD - On Monday June 16th 2014 the Rotary Club of Aruba celebrated their community donation night. On Sunday March 30th the Rotary Club of Aruba held their famous fundraising activity, the "Fiesta Rotaria", on the parking lot in front of 'Stadion Guillermo Prospero Trinidad'. The total proceeds of the "Fiesta Rotaria" were an astonishing Afl. 275,000.00, which amount was entirely returned to the community in the form of donation checks. The photograph shows all recipients of the various charity organizations with their respective checks.

The Rotary Club of Aruba was founded on August 1938. Over the years the Rotary Club of Aruba has contributed to Aruba in many different ways. Some

of the largest contributions have been the YMCA and Centro Kibrahacha. Both projects were initiated by the Rotary Club of Aruba and with their hard work and donations these two projects were realized and are still very active today. The Rotary Club of Aruba has been proud to serve the Aruban community for the last 75 years and looks forward to contributing for many more years to come. The Rotary Club of Aruba would like to thank all the members as well as all volunteers that contributed to the success of the "Fiesta Rotaria" and made this day possible to donate the proceeds. The Rotary Club of Aruba also wanted to thank the press for their continuous and free media publicity before and during the "Fiesta Rotaria". q

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PALM BEACH - Recently at the Playa Linda Resort, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for 10 and 20 consecutive years.

Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more an-

nual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Visitors certificate, and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Goodwill Ambassadors certificate. The recent honoring was given by Aruba Tourism Authority representative Marouska Heyliger at the Playa Linda Resort,

which these loyal guests call their home away from home. Honored as Distinguished Visitors were Helga McGovern of New Jersey, Raymond and JoAnn Grant of Maryland, Priscilla Walker of Texas, Fred and Kathie Meyer of New Jersey, and Paula McCauley of Pennsylvania. Honored

as Goodwill Ambassadors were Lamoth and Aquilla Frederick of New York, Genie Gordon of Maryland, Emanuel and Beth Antoci of New Jersey, Carole DeMarco and Frank Behnke of New Jersey, John and Marianne Costello of New Jersey, and John Costello of Texas.



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SAN FUEGO -- On Saturday night, June 28, Arikok National Park presents its 4th Movie Night at the Park this year, showing two docu-

mentaries with a focus on nature and the importance of nature conservation. During the upcoming movie night double episodes of

the BBC Atlas of the Natural World - Wild Africa series Mountains and Savannah will be shown. Both series focus on wonderful foot-

age and impressions of nature and wild life in Africa. Visitors of all ages, tourists and locals alike, can enjoy this movie night in the magnificent setting of Aruba's national park, under a starlit sky. By offering this unique opportunity the Park aims to reach a broad target group and create more awareness for the importance of nature.

The Movie Night at the Park is free of charge and takes place in front of the Visitor Center at the main

entrance of Arikok National Park in San Fuego. A food and beverage stand is available, offering local drinks and snacks at a small fee. Chairs are provided, however you are allowed to bring your own chairs or blankets and your own picnic baskets as well. Since this is an outdoor event, taking place at night it is recommended you bring something warm to wear. The Movie Night at the Park starts at 7:30 pm and finishes at 9:30 pm. □



Tiger Woods removes his cap before shaking hands with Jordan Spieth after completing the first round of the Quicken Loans National PGA golf tournament, Thursday, June 26, 2014, in Bethesda, Md.

Associated Press

A rude welcome back for Woods

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

BETHESDA, Maryland (AP)

— Tiger Woods was back on the U.S. PGA Tour for the first time in more than three months on Thursday and said he felt “fantastic.”

He was talking about his back, not his game.

One day into his most recent return from injury, that's what mattered to him.

Woods opened with two straight bogeys, made five more bogeys in a seven-hole span around the turn at tough Congressional and finally found his groove late in the opening round of the Quicken Loans National for a 3-over 74.

Woods was tied for 83rd — only 19 players had a higher score — and he will have to score better on Friday if he wants to avoid missing the cut for the first time in two years.

“I made so many little mistakes,” Woods said.

Continued on Page 20



**U.S. loses,
moves on to
2nd round**

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**DEATH
DEFYING**

Germany's Thomas Mueller scores the opening goal during the group G World Cup soccer match between the USA and Germany at the Arena Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, Thursday, June 26, 2014.

Associated Press

U.S. advances to World Cup's 2nd round despite loss

RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

RECIFE, Brazil (AP) — They heard about people back home watching during their lunch breaks, streaming on office computers or playing hooky with fellow fans. And then, as the bus pulled away from the hotel Thursday, the U.S. World Cup team was struck with an unusual sight.

Hundreds, maybe thousands of fans in red, white and blue, walking for miles around stalled cars through nearly hip-high water along flooded streets and highways, making their way to the stadium to cheer them on.

"That kind of passion to root us on is what really helps drive us," defender Omar Gonzalez said. "Now we give them another game to go to."

No late goals in this one. Not even a win. But despite a 1-0 loss to Germany, the United States was good enough to advance to the knockout stage of consecutive World Cups for the first time and good enough to hold onto the national attention that soccer has finally grabbed in America.

"I'm getting emails from people who work at companies where the executives have called a three-hour break and put on giant screens," U.S. Soccer Federation President Sunil



Germany's Thomas Mueller scores the opening goal during the group G World Cup soccer match between the USA and Germany at the Arena Pernambuco in Recife, Brazil, Thursday, June 26, 2014.

Associated Press

Gulati said. "All of this ... is pretty extraordinary, and that will build for the next few days."

Thomas Mueller scored off a rebound in the 55th minute to give Germany first place in Group C with seven points, but the Americans held onto second when Portugal defeated Ghana 2-1 in a game played simultaneously in Brasilia.

Two minutes after Mueller's goal, Ghana's Asamoah Gyan tied the score, leaving his team one goal from matching the U.S. with four points and moving ahead on the second tiebreaker, goals scored. But then Cristiano Ronaldo put the Portuguese back ahead in the 80th, giving the Americans a little margin for error.

On the sideline, U.S. goalkeeper coach Chris Woods used his fingers to signal "2-1" to Tim Howard. But Howard was unsure which team was ahead.

"Then Woods gave the thumbs up — in our favor," Besler said.

Around the same time, the American fans behind the other goal started cheering, having learned of Ronaldo's goal from whatever electronic device they had brought along.

"Kind of calmed me down the last five minutes a little bit," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

Portugal opened with a 4-0 loss to Germany and tied the U.S. 2-2 on Sunday with a 95th-minute goal, so the U.S. had an even goal

difference while the Portuguese were at minus three. The Americans advance to a round-of-16 game Tuesday in Salvador against Belgium.

They started celebrating at the final whistle, 30 seconds before the other game ended. The script was similar to that of 2002, when the U.S. opened with a 3-2 win over Portugal, then tied South Korea 1-1 and lost to Poland 3-0. The Americans advanced 12 years ago because South Korea defeated the Portuguese on an 80th-minute goal.

Last weekend's game was seen by 24.7 million viewers on ESPN and Univision, and with online viewers included it was the most-watched soccer match in American history. This game kicked off at noon EDT, and ESPN said its online streaming application set a record with 1.7 million concurrent users for all programs.

Across America, youngsters and athletes are turning into avid soccer supporters. San Francisco Giants pitcher Tim Lincecum wore a U.S. jersey Wednesday after his no-hitter against San Diego, and Adam Wainwright had the American flag painted on his face when he went out to stretch with his St. Louis Cardinals teammates last weekend. Actor Will Ferrell came to Recife for Thursday's match, and the

Empire State Building was illuminated in red, white and blue.

"It translates into more fans, more casual fans, more kids that get turned onto the sport and may turn out to want to play," Gulati said. Because of the heavy rain, the Americans' bus trip to the stadium took 50 minutes, twice the time needed to reach Saturday's training session. And because of the tropical downpour, both teams weren't allowed to warm up on the field.

Some of the players' family and friends stayed at their hotel. Others' vehicles couldn't reach Arena Pernambuco, where rain fell throughout much of the game and there were scattered empty red seats.

U.S. captain Clint Dempsey said it was "in the back of your mind about your family not being able to make it to the game because of the traffic and everything. You just want to make sure that they're safe."

Germany scored when Mesut Ozil took a short corner kick, received a pass back and crossed to Per Mertesacker. His header was parried by Howard into the path of Mueller, who curled a right-footed shot from 18 yards inside the far post.

Germany had 63 percent possession and nine shots on goal to one for the U.S.

Algeria into 2nd round after 1-1 draw with Russia

PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

CURITIBA, Brazil (AP) — For the Algeria squad, this has been a tournament of breaking new ground.

First, Algeria won its first World Cup match since 1982 — a 4-2 victory over South Korea, and then on Thursday it qualified for the knockout stages for the first time.

Islam Slimani's 60th -minute headed equalizer was enough to gain his team a 1-1 draw against Russia and the one competition point it needed to place second in Group H behind Belgium.

Now, Algeria has another

32-year anniversary on its radar.

On Monday, the Algerians will meet Germany in the Round of 16 in Porto Alegre. The teams haven't met since 1982 when Algeria beat West Germany, one of the tournament favorites, with Lakhdar Belloumi memorably stroking home the winner. Though it went on to win another game in that tournament, Algeria failed to qualify for the second round of the World Cup after West Germany and Austria played out a result that suited both of those teams.

The European teams, meeting a day after Algeria had

won its last group game, knew that a 1-0 win for West Germany would put both through to the second round at Algeria's expense. Qualification for the second round in Brazil finally allows the team from north Africa to move on from one of the World Cup's most contentious episodes.

And the relief was certainly evident in the celebrations on the pitch.

Qualification prompted mass celebrations in the packed Algerian section in Arena da Baixada in Curitiba, and on the pitch among the players. Even the combative coach, Vahid Halilhodzic, was hug-

ging staff and players and shaking his head in apparent disbelief.

"I'm very proud of what we achieved tonight," Halilhodzic said.

"I think Algeria played a heroic match and our qualification is perfectly deserved."

Algeria had to come from behind to get through. Russia, needing a win to advance, went on the attack from the start and dominated the first half with its intricate and swift passing movements through midfield. The Russians took the lead in the 6th minute when Alexander Kokorin powerfully headed in a left-

foot cross from Dmitry Kombarov.

Slimani's equalizer came after Russia goalkeeper Igor Akinfeev failed to catch a swinging left-foot free kick from Yacine Brahimi. That was the second costly error that Akinfeev has made in the tournament for Russia, though there were indications on the TV broadcast that a green laser was being shone toward the goalkeeper just before the free kick was taken.

Russia coach Fabio Capello said his goalkeeper was "blinded by the laser beam."

Halilhodzic said he saw nothing.

FIFA bans Suarez for 4 months for biting opponent

GRAHAM DUNBAR

AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Luis Suarez exits the World Cup with one of the longest bans in tournament history, and his reputation once again in tatters.

The Uruguay forward, widely regarded as one of the best players in the world, was banned by FIFA from all football for four months on Thursday for biting an Italian opponent in an incident that marred the team's victory and progression to the second round. It's the third time he's served a suspension for biting an opponent — after similar incidents at both Ajax in the Dutch league and Liverpool in England — and the second straight World Cup where Suarez exits in disgrace.

The four-month ban will sideline Suarez for the first two months of Liverpool's season. He was also sus-

pended for Uruguay's next nine matches, which extends beyond the four months and rules him out of next year's Copa America, where his team is the defending champion. The Uruguayan football federation said it would appeal. Aside from Diego Maradona's 15-month suspension for a failed drug test at the 1994 tournament, it's the longest ban handed out to a player at the World Cup. FIFA also fined Suarez 100,000 Swiss francs (\$112,000).

Suarez bit the left shoulder of defender Giorgio Chiellini on Tuesday in Natal during Uruguay's 1-0 win over Italy, an incident that went unpunished by the referee but was witnessed by fans around the world on TV. Given Suarez's previous biting incidents, the images went viral immediately.

"Such behavior cannot be tolerated on any football

pitch and in particular not at a FIFA World Cup, when the eyes of millions of people are on the stars on the field," Claudio Sulser, chairman of the FIFA disciplinary committee, said in a statement.

The Uruguayan federation was preparing an urgent appeal, as Suarez headed home. FIFA even barred him staying with teammates ahead of their round-of-16 game against Colombia on Saturday in Rio de Janeiro.

"Luis in the next few hours will travel to Montevideo to be with the rest of his family to recover," federation president Wilmar Valdez told reporters.

Suarez scored both goals in Uruguay's 2-1 win over England, a performance that further enhanced a reputation that had gradually been rebuilt following a 10-game suspension for biting a Premier League



In this June 24, 2014 file photo, Uruguay's Luis Suarez holds his teeth after biting Italy's Giorgio Chiellini's shoulder during the group D World Cup soccer match between Italy and Uruguay at the Arena das Dunas in Natal, Brazil.

Associated Press

opponent last May, and an eight-game ban for racially abusing an opponent in 2011. Suarez was voted the English league's best player last season after a campaign void of any disciplinary issues.

But now, the 27-year-old Suarez is the main actor in the World Cup's most dam-

aging episode for a second time.

In the quarterfinals in 2010 in South Africa, his deliberate handball on the goal-line in the final minute of extra time denied Ghana an almost certain winning goal that would have made it the first ever African semifinalist. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Durant, Frost, Garwood share Senior Players lead

WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Joe Durant, David Frost and Doug Garwood sprinted to the early lead at the Senior Players Championship, shooting 6-under 64 at defenseless Fox Chapel on Thursday.

Still drying out after days of steady rain, the par-70 layout in suburban Pittsburgh offered little resistance. Frost and Garwood breezed through their rounds without making a bogey, and Durant offset his lone bogey with seven birdies.

Bernhard Langer, Corey Pavin, Larry Mize, Steve Pate, Olin Browne, Bart Bryant, Peter Fowler and Wes Short Jr. shot 65. Colin Montgomerie, the Senior PGA winner last month, opened with a 5-under 30 on the front nine before

fading to a 69.

Defending champion Kenny Perry, looking for his fourth major title in the last year, failed to take advantage of the prime scoring conditions. Playing his eighth tournament in nine weeks, Perry shot an even-par 70.

More than half the players finished at even par or better.

Durant, a Champions Tour rookie who is still attempting to maintain fulltime status on the U.S. PGA Tour, holed out from the greenside bunker on the par-3 third, kick-starting his round. He ended it with a sliding left-to-right birdie putt on the par-5 18th for his 64, matching his best round since joining the seniors' tour after turning 50 in April.

Frost and Garwood quickly joined Durant atop the lead-



Joe Durant chips onto the 18th green during the first round of the Senior Players Championship golf tournament at Fox Chapel Golf Club in Pittsburgh, Thursday, June 26, 2014. Durant birdied the hole for a 6-under-par round of 64, and a share of the early lead.

Associated Press

derboard.

Frustrated after a middling 39th-place finish at the Encompass Championship last week, Frost ditched the shafts on his irons for the first time in four years, trading them in for something that offered a little more forgiveness. The move paid off with a near flawless round in which he missed only one fairway and three greens.

Garwood has finally found a home on the Champions Tour after spending most of his adult life on pro golf's

fringe. He never played in a U.S. PGA Tour event and sold insurance among other things before trying to give the 50-and-over circuit a shot last spring.

Garwood lost a playoff four weeks ago in the Principal Charity Classic and backed it up with a runner-up finish last weekend. Garwood's round included three straight birdies on Nos. 12-14, including a 35-footer on the par-4 14th. His birdie attempt on the 18th stopped one roll short of giving him the lead. □

Reports: Harding Park to get PGA Championship

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

After going more 40 years without being played on a public course, the PGA Championship is headed to two in a row.

Multiple reports indicate Thursday that Harding Park in San Francisco has been selected to host the PGA Championship in 2020. The 2019 event will be played at Bethpage Black, a public course on Long Island.

The 2020 event at Harding Park would give California majors in three consecutive years, with the U.S. Open going to Pebble Beach in 2019 and Torrey Pines in 2021.

The last PGA Championship on an affordable public course was in 1974 at Tanglewood Golf Course in North Carolina.

Golf.com, golfdigest.com, the San Francisco Chronicle and Golfweek reported the developments. Golfweek also reported Harding Park would get the Presidents Cup in 2025. It was played at Harding Park in 2007.

The PGA Championship has not been played on the West Coast since 1998 at Sahalee outside Seattle. □

5 over. "We were all kind of looking to break 80," Woods said.

Woods found some rhythm from there, hitting an approach from 196 yards on the 467-yard fourth hole to 3 feet, and ending with short birdie putts on the par-3 seventh and short par-4 eighth by wisely using the slopes in the greens to feed it close to the hole. More telling was his final hole. He thought he had a chance to end his round with a 35-foot birdie putt, and as it broke just right of the cup, he quickly dropped to a crouch and then rose up to go mark his ball. That was the best evidence there was no problem with his back.

"The back's great," Woods said. "It felt fantastic. That's one of the reasons why I let go on those tee shots. I hit it pretty hard out there." □

Woods

Continued from Page 17

Congressional had a lot to do with that.

Two weeks after a U.S. Open that had no rough, Congressional made it feel like one. Any shot just off the fairway was buried, making it difficult for even the powerful players to reach the green on some of the longer par 4s.

Greg Chalmers finished with three straight birdies for a 66 and a one-shot lead over Ricky Barnes and Freddie Jacobson. Defending champion Bill Haas, Patrick Reed, U.S. Open runner-up Erik Compton and Tyrone Van Aswegen shot 68. Compton birdied his last four holes.

"I didn't think it was easy at all," Chalmers said. "I played really well, and anybody who plays really well can shoot a low score. You just have to be coming out of the fairway, and I did that the majority of the time."

Only 26 players in the 120-



Greg Chalmers, of Australia, hits out of a bunker onto the 11th green during the first round of the Quicken Loans National PGA golf tournament, Thursday, June 26, 2014, in Bethesda, Md.

Associated Press

man field broke par

This day, however, was all about Woods. Golf's biggest draw won the last two times he played Congressional, in 2009 and 2012.

Even with an early start, the gallery lined the entire left side 218-yard 10th hole, with hundreds of others watching from the patio and veranda of the famed clubhouse at Congressional.

Two holes into his opening round, they had reason to ask: We waited three months for this?

But it wasn't just Woods. He played with Jason Day and Jordan Spieth, and that trio of top-10 players combined for six bogeys in two holes. All three of them were in the fairway on the same hole only one time in the entire round — on No. 11, the hardest at Congressional, and only because Day's tee shot ricocheted off a tree.

Day had a 73, while Spieth shot 74.

"It was cool playing the first one back," Spieth said. "I love playing alongside

Jason, as well. We are all rooting for each other, and that's a good feeling. It was hard to root for each other because it just looked like the lid was closed on the hole. But once we all started hitting a couple fairways, it got better at the end."

Woods looked about the same as he has all year. He gave away shots with his short game, with some ordinary chips and not making as many putts as he once did.

On his second hole, No. 11, he had a 50-foot putt from the fringe that came up 18 feet short of the hole. He missed consecutive 6-foot putts — one for birdie, one for par.

He did most of the damage to his card around the turn, failing to get up-and-down for par on the 15th, 17th and 18th holes, hitting a poor chip from the side of a bunker on the long par-3 second, pulling a pitching wedge into a bunker on No. 3 and missing a 5-foot putt.

That put him at 6 over for the round. At the time, Day was 4 over and Spieth was

2 years later, Nadal gets past Rosol at Wimbledon

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

LONDON (AP) — Uncle Toni's reaction said it all.

This one meant a lot to him and to the tennis player he coaches, his No. 1-ranked nephew Rafael Nadal, who was in a tough spot Thursday, one point from trailing two sets to none against the same guy he lost to — in the same stadium, same round — two years ago at Wimbledon.

As the younger Nadal began turning things around, evening the match at a set apiece on his opponent's double-fault, the older Nadal dispensed with any sense of decorum, leaping out his Centre Court seat, punching the air, and shouting "Vamos!"

From there, the ultimate result quickly became apparent. Nadal came back to beat 52nd-ranked Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-4, returning to the third round at the All England Club for the first time since 2011.

"I didn't want to lose another time against a guy like this," Toni Nadal said. "I don't like to lose against a player I find (unprofessional)."

In 2012's second round, Rosol was ranked 100th, and Nadal was on a streak of having reached the final in five consecutive Wimbledon appearances. The big-swinging, 6-foot-5 (1.96-meter) Rosol played an unrepentantly risky style that day, aiming for lines and putting shots where he wanted, pulling off a five-set victory.

Rosol engaged in some gamesmanship then, including moving around while waiting to receive serves and,

Toni said Thursday, making noise as Rafael was hitting shots. After the rematch, Rosol complained Nadal took too much time between points and lamented that the chair umpire didn't intervene.

Said Toni about Rosol: "It's normal that we want to win, but it's true that for me, it's worse to lose with him than with another guy."

Rafael, for his part, said he wasn't thinking about two years ago.

Still, for nearly two full sets, it was hard not to recall that match because Rosol played similarly, hitting hard, flat strokes that didn't miss. When Rosol broke for a 3-2 lead in the second set with a cross-court backhand, he had a 24-9 edge in winners.

Nadal broke back to 4-all, whirling around and throwing a celebratory uppercut, but again was in trouble at 6-5 in the tiebreaker. On that set point, Nadal whipped a winner he called "a perfect forehand for that moment" to get to 6-all. Two points later, Rosol plopped a second serve into the net for a double-fault that ceded the set, and said later: "In the end, he was more lucky."

Nadal probably would not agree with that assessment. He did agree about the significance of that sequence.

"The difference maybe is one point," said Nadal,



Rafael Nadal of Spain celebrates after he defeated Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic in their mens singles match on Centre Court at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Thursday, June 26, 2014.

Associated Press

who collected two of his 14 Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon but exited in the first round last year. "Maybe if I lose that set point in the second set — if that forehand down the line went out — maybe (I) will be here with a loss."

Instead, he raised the level of his play. He won 22 consecutive points on his serve, and moved better, bending so low his knee touched the grass on backhands. Nadal broke for a 2-1 lead in the third set, and again for a 1-0 lead in the fourth.

"If I had played the first set the way I did the last two, I would have won it, too, I

think," Nadal said.

Three seeded men lost, including No. 13 Richard Gasquet, who wasted nine match points and was beaten by 19-year-old Nick Kyrgios of Australia 3-6, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-5, 10-8. Winners included No. 5 Stan Wawrinka, No. 8 Milos Ronic, No. 9 John Isner and No. 10 Kei Nishikori among the men, and past champions Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova among the women.

Nadal's longtime rival, seven-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer, turned in a far more straightforward performance, delivering 25 aces in a 6-3, 7-5,

6-3 win over 103rd-ranked Gilles Muller of Luxembourg to get back to the third round, too.

Federer's streak of 36 consecutive major quarterfinals ended at the All England Club with a second-round defeat last year, part of a tumultuous and unpredictable tournament. This year has gone more to form, so far.

"For the most part, the locker room I'm in, it still seems pretty full — where all the seeded players are," Isner said. "It's good to see. It's good for the tournament to have all the big names, especially the top four, still alive." □

NHL salary cap to rise after record revenues

IRA PODELL

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — After a year of record revenues, the NHL salary cap is going up again.

The exact figure for the 2014-15 season hasn't been set yet, NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said on Thursday following a meeting of the league's board of governors, but he

hoped it would be worked out with the players' association before the draft on Friday.

The final number is expected to be in the high \$60 millions or low \$70 millions. That gives general managers a guideline as they head into the draft and the free-agent shopping season that begins on Tuesday.

Teams that have large

amounts of cap space can already make their offseason plans, whether it be trades or free-agent signings, without knowing the final cap number.

"I expect to see a lot more trades than we normally see," Minnesota Wild general manager Chuck Fletcher said. "There's so much parity in the league, everyone is trying to get

ahead."

Last season's salary cap sat at \$64.3 million, quite a jump from the original cap number of \$39 million, established after the lockout-canceled season of 2004-05. The only time the cap number dropped from the previous season was in 2012-13 following another lockout when the figure was set at \$60 million after

being \$64.3 in 2011-12.

Bettman said number-crunching was still being done to determine what the league's revenues were last season, but he declared they were at an all-time high.

"It is a record number, which is a testament to the strength of the game and our fans, and how competitive things are," he said. □

Dallas gets Chandler back in 6-player deal with NY Knicks



In this March 21, 2014, photo, New York Knicks' Tyson Chandler gestures during an NBA basketball game against the Philadelphia 76ers in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

SCHUYLER DIXON
AP Sports Writer

DALLAS (AP) — The Mavericks and New York Knicks agreed Wednesday to a six-player trade that returns center Tyson Chandler to Dallas three years after he helped win a championship only to leave right away in free agency. The Mavericks sent guards Jose Calderon, Shane Larkin and Wayne Ellington and center Samuel Dalember to the Knicks for Chandler and point guard Raymond Felton. The Knicks also get both of Dallas' draft picks Thursday night, a pair of second-round selections at Nos. 34 and 51. New York didn't

have a draft pick before the first major personnel move since Phil Jackson took over as team president. "The journey to build this team for the upcoming season and beyond continues," Jackson said. "We have added players with this move that will fit right in to our system while maintaining future flexibility." New York is hoping to keep Carmelo Anthony despite the star forward planning to opt out of his contract and become a free agent on July 1. The Mavericks are reportedly on a short list of new destinations Anthony will also consider. Chandler was the emo-

tional catalyst for the Dirk Nowitzki-led Mavericks when they beat the Miami Heat in six games to win the franchise's first title in 2011.

Mavericks owner Mark Cuban made the much-debated decision not to offer him a long-term contract because of concerns over how the new labor deal would keep Dallas from making other moves. Chandler, who had a history of injuries, turned down a one-year deal worth about \$20 million for the security of a four-year, \$55 million contract with the Knicks. The 31-year-old Chandler is going into the final season of that deal at \$14.5 million, and Felton has one year at \$3.8 million with a player option for another season in the same range. Calderon just finished the first season of a four-year, \$28 million contract with the Mavericks, who also signed Monta Ellis to a multiyear deal last summer. It was the first time Dallas had committed to any player beyond one year since Nowitzki signed his most recent extension in 2010. Nowitzki will join Anthony in free agency, but he is expected to re-sign with the Mavericks.

WNBA Capsules Shock rally to beat Fever 107-102 in OT



Chicago Sky's Epiphanny Prince shoots as Connecticut Sun's Katie Douglas defends, left, during the first half of a WNBA basketball game, Wednesday, June 25, 2014, in Uncasville, Conn.

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Sky-lar Diggins scored 32 points in her return to Indiana to help the Tulsa Shock beat the Fever 107-102 in overtime Wednesday night. The South Bend native and former Notre Dame star hit a 3-pointer with 2.8 seconds left in regulation to force overtime. She also had seven rebounds and four assists in Tulsa's come-

back victory. Diggins' 3-point play midway through the overtime period gave Tulsa (6-7) a 102-96 advantage. The Fever cut it to 102-99 on Briann January's 3-pointer with 2:21 left. But a minute later, Diggins set up Odyssey Sims for a layup that put the game away. Shavonte Zellous led Indiana (6-7) with 33 points. Karima Christmas added 17 points, and Marissa Coleman had 14 points and eight rebounds. SUN 79, SKY 69
UNCASVILLE, Conn. — Rookie Alyssa Thomas scored 12 of her 23 points in the third quarter and had 11 rebounds to lead Connecticut to its sixth straight victory. Katie Douglas added 19 points for the Sun (8-6), Alex Bentley had 12 points and nine assists, and Chiney Ogumike finished with 12 points and eight rebounds. Sylvia Fowles had 17 points and nine rebounds in her season debut for Chicago (6-8). She missed the first 13 games after having arthroscopic surgery to repair a hip injury.

Cavs take Wiggins with No. 1 pick in NBA draft



NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, left, congratulates Andrew Wiggins of Kansas who was selected by the Cleveland Cavaliers as the number one pick in the 2014 NBA draft, Thursday, June 26, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press.

BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Andrew Wiggins of Canada was selected by the Cleveland Cavaliers with the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft on Thursday night. The Cavs went for a freshman from Canada to open the draft for the second straight year and will hope Wiggins works out better than Anthony Bennett. Bennett was injured last summer, came into the season out of shape and made no impact, one of the reasons the Cavs were back in this spot again.

But Wiggins seems a much more ready product after averaging a University of Kansas freshman-record 17.1 points. He might have ended up as the top pick anyway, but became the best option for the Cavs once Jayhawks teammate Joel Embiid suffered a stress fracture in his right foot shortly before the draft. Wearing a black tuxedo jacket with a white floral pattern, the guard slipped on a maroon Cleveland hat, hugged his supporters and went on stage to shake hands with Commissioner Adam Silver,

who was calling the first round for the first time since replacing David Stern. Milwaukee followed with another freshman, Duke University forward Jabari Parker, who on Wednesday disputed that he had been out of shape for his workout with Cleveland and performed poorly. Embiid went third to Philadelphia, drawing loud cheers from the many red-and-blue dressed 76ers fans who made the trip to Barclays Center in Brooklyn, as well as from Philadelphia guard Michael Carter-Williams, last season's Rookie

of the Year who was sitting on the arena floor level. The 76ers had two top-10 picks and could afford to take a chance on Embiid, the big man who may have ended up the top prize despite his lone season at Kansas ending early because of a bad back. But once the foot injury popped up during workouts, leaving his NBA debut uncertain after surgery, the two teams at the top passed. Arizona forward Aaron Gordon went fourth to Orlando, which also had two picks in the lottery.

After Aereo, what's next for Internet TV?

RYAN NAKASHIMA

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Supreme Court shot down Aereo's business model this week, but that doesn't mean customers' desire for a better TV experience is gone.

Americans are still fed up with huge channel bundles, high prices, poor service and the lack of ability to watch all their shows on all their devices. That's part of why Aereo was attractive: It offered a few dozen local broadcast channels and the Bloomberg TV financial channel on multiple devices for just \$8 a month.

Industry watchers say the pay TV business must continue to evolve to win over unhappy customers, even if the nation's top court said grabbing signals from the airwaves and distributing them online without content-owner permission isn't the way.

"Even without Aereo, the reason people were cutting the cord, for cost reasons and so on, those don't go away," said Robin Flynn, an analyst with market research firm SNL Kagan.

Last year, the number of pay TV subscribers in the

U.S. fell for the first time, dipping 0.1 percent to 94.6 million, according to Leichtman Research Group.

SNL estimates that 5 percent of homes will substitute pay TV with one or more Internet video services by the end of the year, rising to 10 percent in 2017. Many companies are offering quality TV content online for low cost to meet that rising demand. They include Netflix and Amazon. Hulu, which is owned by major broadcast networks ABC, NBC and Fox, offers full episodes of popular shows like "The Colbert Report" the next day for free.

While that's not live TV, which Aereo offered, for many it's a good-enough substitute.

The decision against Aereo is a setback, but not a fatal one for people who want to break away from traditional TV, said Bill Niemeyer, senior analyst at TDG Research.

"While the content on the major broadcast networks is very important for some people, it's not important for everyone," Niemeyer said. "So it's a dent, but I don't think it's going to significantly change the



This file image provided by Aereo shows a streaming broadcast of Bob the Builder on the New York PBS station, WNET 13. Just because Aereo's business model has been shot down by the Supreme Court, that doesn't mean customers' desire for a better TV experience has gone away.

Associated Press

trends."

If anything, the rise and fall of Aereo has highlighted an important fact — that high-quality TV signals are available on the airwaves for free — something that might have been forgotten if Aereo hadn't insisted that its technology simply replicates the antenna and wire that an average person could set up on

their own.

"What Aereo has really done in our perspective is to address the lack of understanding that over-the-air is free," said Mark Buff, CEO of Mohu, a company that makes flat indoor antennas that attach to walls. Mohu has sold 1.5 million antennas since it began in 2011 and they work in the kind of dense urban areas

like New York where Aereo is believed to have had a small subscriber base. It is about to launch Mohu Channels, a device that blends Internet video services like Netflix with free-to-air TV in a single channel guide.

"We certainly do see and believe that the cord-cutting movement is on the rise," he said. □

Google begins editing European search results

TOBY STERLING

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Google has begun deleting some search results at the request of its users, following a court ruling that European Union citizens have a right to ask for the removal of embarrassing personal information that pops up on a search of their names.

Several weeks after the May ruling by the European Court of Justice on the so-called "right to be forgotten," the company set up an online interface for users to register their complaints.

The company said Thursday it has begun taking down results this week.

But Google's European spokesman Al Verney said there is a significant backlog to work through. At last report, more than 50,000 people from multiple nationalities had filed requests to have information removed.

"Each request has to be assessed individually," Verney said.

The company is not releasing information on what percentage of complaints appear to fall into areas the court specified as potentially objectionable: results that are "inadequate, irrelevant or no longer relevant."

Europe's national data protection agencies have said they expect a mixed

bag of 'legitimate' complaints, as well as some that are clearly not and some borderline cases.

Critics of the ruling say removing result links is censorship, and will lead to politicians and criminals requesting elimination of information. But supporters note the court specified Google should not remove links to information when the public's right to know about it outweighs an individual's right to privacy.

Under the system Google has set up, any search on a user's name from within the European Union is supposed to show a warning that information may have been removed due to privacy considerations,



In this April 17, 2007 file photo, exhibitors of the Google company work on laptop computers in front of an illuminated sign of the Google logo at the industrial fair Hannover Messe in Hanover, Germany.

Associated Press

though the system is not yet fully operational. In cases where the company decides to reject a response to scrub results, it informs the person that complained of its decision. Then it tells them how to contact their national data protection agency if

they disagree with the decision and want to pursue the matter further.

Google is only deleting information that appears on its own results pages. It has no control over information on external websites, which did not fall under the court's ruling. □

Stocks head lower on Wall Street, led by banks

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Banks and other financial firms tugged the stock market slightly lower Thursday as a mixed batch of economic reports and earnings results gave investors little reason to push the market up. Barclays sank following news that New York's attorney general sued the British bank, claiming that it favored high-frequency traders over large institutions in its private-trading platform, known as a "dark pool." It was only the third loss in 10 trading days for the Standard & Poor's 500 index, which closed at its latest record high just under a week ago, on June 20. Many investors have been saying stocks could be due for a pullback given their rapid rise recently.

Phil Orlando, chief equity strategist at Federated Investors, said a short slump in the summer months wouldn't come as a surprise. "I fully expect to see a hiccup here, but I wouldn't get too worried about it," he said. "It's probably going to set us up for a nice end-of-the-year rally."

The Standard & Poor's 500 index sank 2.31 points, or 0.1 percent, to close at 1,957.22, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 0.71 of a point to 4,379.05.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 21.38 points, or 0.1 percent, to close at 16,846.13.

Two economic reports out early Thursday offered little encouragement. In one, the government said the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits declined last week, another

the biggest loss in the S&P 500, after the retailer posted quarterly earnings and sales late Wednesday that fell short of analysts' estimates. The store's stock dropped \$4.41 to \$56.70.

is on track for its second weekly loss this month. That shouldn't worry anyone, said Randy Frederick, managing director of active trading and derivatives at the Charles Schwab Cen-



GoPro's CEO Nick Woodman, center, celebrates his company's IPO with family, employees and others at the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York, Thursday, June 26, 2014. GoPro, the maker of wearable sports cameras, loved by mountain climbers, divers, surfers and other extreme sports fans, said late Wednesday it sold 17.8 million shares at \$24 each in its initial public offering of stock.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

er sign that an economic slowdown earlier this year hasn't caused employers to shed workers. In a separate report, the government said consumer spending inched up 0.2 percent last month, half the increase that economists had predicted.

Among the stocks making big moves, Bed Bath & Beyond sank 7 percent,

GoPro jumped 31 percent in its stock-market debut. The company, whose cameras get strapped to the heads of skydivers, extreme skiers and surfers, raised \$427 million in its initial public offering Thursday. GoPro soared \$7.34 to \$31.34 in its first day of trading on the Nasdaq stock market.

With one trading day left in the week, the S&P 500

ter for Financial Research. As the stock market set a series of all-time highs this spring, more traders began laying bets in the options market that the market would take a fall, if only for technical reasons. Markets can only go so far in one direction.

"There's nothing to get panicked about," Frederick said.

Applications for unemployment benefits drop

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits declined last week, the latest evidence that a sharp economic slowdown earlier this year hasn't caused employers to cut jobs.

Weekly unemployment benefit applications fell 2,000 to a seasonally adjusted 312,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, rose 2,000 to 314,000.

The average has fallen 9 percent since the beginning of this year. Applications are a proxy for layoffs, so the declines indicate that companies are cutting fewer jobs.

The figures come a day after the government said the economy shrank at a 2.9 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year, the worst reading since early 2009, when the U.S. was mired in the depths of the recession.

The number of people actually receiving benefits inched up by 12,000 to 2.57 million.

But the small increase comes after the level fell to a six-year low in the previous week.

When businesses are confident enough to keep staff, they are also likely to hire more people.

The low level of applications indicates employers haven't been rattled by the first quarter's dismal showing, which many economists have partly blamed on bad weather. If businesses feared the economy was tumbling into a recession, they would likely ramp up layoffs.

Instead, they are hiring at a healthy pace. Employers added 217,000 jobs in May, the fourth straight month of gains above 200,000. That's the first such stretch since 1999. The unemployment rate remained 6.3 percent in May, the lowest in more than five years.

Nike 4th quarter net income tops estimates

NEW YORK (AP) — Nike's fiscal fourth-quarter net income rose 5 percent as higher revenue in most geographic regions offset heavy investments in marketing for the World Cup soccer tournament.

Results for the March-May quarter topped expectations and shares rose in aftermarket trading Thursday. Nike is outfitting 10 teams, including the U.S. team, during the World Cup taking place now in Brazil. It also introduced four new soccer shoes ahead of the tournament. More athletes are wearing its shoes at the

World Cup than all other brands combined, with more than a third of them wearing Nike's Magista soccer cleats, said Trevor Edwards, the president of the Nike brand. Nike's soccer gear is also doing well in Nike stores, online and in other companies' shops, Edwards said on a call with investors.

Soccer revenue grew 21 percent during the fiscal year to \$2.3 billion.

The athletic gear maker said Thursday that net income for the three months ended May 31 rose to \$698 million, or 78 cents per

share. That compares with net income of \$662 million, or 76 cents per share, in the same quarter last year. Analysts expected 75 cents per share, according to Fact Set.

Revenue rose 11 percent, to \$7.43 billion from \$6.7 billion, and topped Wall Street's prediction of \$7.34 billion. Revenue for the Nike brand increased 13 percent to \$7 billion. Revenue rose in all geographic regions except Japan.

The company's quarterly marketing costs rose 10 percent to \$3 billion, partly due to the World Cup.

In a good sign for the current quarter, Beaverton, Oregon-based Nike said that orders for deliveries scheduled from June through November rose 11 percent compared with a year ago. For the year that ended on May 31, net income rose 9 percent to \$2.69 billion, or \$2.97 per share, compared with \$2.47 billion, or \$2.68 per share. Revenue rose 10 percent, to \$27.8 billion from \$25.31 billion.

Shares rose \$2.71, or 3.5 percent, to \$79.57 in aftermarket trading. The stock had been down about 2 percent in 2014.

Ikea raises hourly pay for US retail workers

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Ikea's U.S. division is raising the minimum wage for thousands of its retail workers, pegging it to the cost of living in each location, instead of its competition.

The 17 percent average raise, expected to be announced Thursday, is the Swedish ready-to-assemble furniture chain's biggest in 10 years in the U.S. The pay increase will take effect Jan. 1. It will translate to an average wage of \$10.76 an hour, a \$1.59 increase from the previous \$9.17.

About half of Ikea's 11,000 hourly store workers will get a raise. How much will vary based on the cost of living in each store location.

Ikea, which has cultivated a reputation for fair treatment of its workers, evaluates its benefits plans every year and had always adjusted wages based on its competition. But Rob Olson, Ikea's acting U.S. president, says the latest move shifts its approach.

"Now, we decided to focus less on the competition and more about the co-workers," Olson told The Associated Press in an interview this week. He says he was guided by its vision of "creating a better life" for its workers. That will improve the company's relationship with employees and reduce worker turnover, which he says is already well below the retail industry's average. About 19 percent of full-time retail workers leave their jobs annually, according to the National Retail Federation. Ikea's raises come when a push to raise wages for hourly workers has made headlines.

Fast-food workers asking for higher pay in cities have staged protests across the country. Union groups have also held protests at Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the nation's largest private employer. And President Barack Obama is endorsing a bill that would raise the fed-

eral minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour by 2016.

Many business groups have opposed the measure, saying it would hurt the economy and lead to job losses.

Still, some are making public splashes with

minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, though not necessarily much more.

Olson emphasized that the pay increase will not lead to higher prices, reduced work hours or job losses. Rather, the raises are being offset by such

wage increase on the MIT Living Wage Calculator, which takes into consideration housing, food, medical and transportation costs plus annual taxes. Ikea says it's a significant departure from the retail industry standard, which

It doesn't affect the remaining 2,615 salaried and hourly employees at five distribution centers, two service centers and a manufacturing plant. Those employees who have hourly jobs are already paid above the local living wage, Ikea said. Ikea has recently expanded other employee benefits. In the past year, it has introduced an employee loyalty program, which makes contributions to a new retirement fund, and has increased the employer match to workers' 401(k) plans. It also launched a unified bonus program.

Olson said Ikea's wage structure varies by country based on different parameters. Ikea noted that if there's an increase in the federal minimum wage increase, it would welcome that.

Meanwhile, Wal-Mart has remained neutral on whether the federal minimum wage increase should be increased. The nation's largest private employer, with 1.3 million workers in the U.S., has said less than 1 percent of its workforce is paid minimum wage. It has said its average wage for both full- and part-time hourly workers is nearly \$12 an hour. □



Ikea employees cheer during the grand opening of a New York City Ikea store, in Brooklyn. Ikea on Thursday, June 26, 2014 plans to announce its U.S. division is raising the minimum wage for thousands of its retail workers, pegging it to the cost of living in each location, instead of its competition.
(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

across-the-board raises. Gap Inc. said in February that it will set the minimum wage for workers at \$9 an hour this year and \$10 an hour in 2015. Most retail workers already make more than the federal

cost-cutting measures as using national purchase programs for such items as cleaning services or printer paper. In the past, each store would use individual suppliers.

Olson said Ikea is basing its

sets wages according to the local employment market.

All 38 U.S. locations as well as new locations planned for Merriam, Kansas; Miami; and St. Louis will use the new wage structure.

Alcoa to spend \$2.85B on jet engine parts maker

TOM MURPHY

AP Business Writer

Alcoa is delving deeper into the aerospace industry, spending nearly \$3 billion to acquire the British jet engine component company Firth Rixson.

The Pittsburgh company said Thursday that the deal will boost annual aerospace revenue by 20 percent, to about \$4.8 billion, as the company continues to turn its focus away from its mining and aluminum smelting roots. Company shares jumped 5 percent about an hour before markets opened, which puts the stock on course to reach a multi-year high.

Alcoa will pay \$2.35 billion

in cash and \$500 million in stock to Firth Rixson's current owner, the private equity firm Oak Hill Capital. It also may spend an additional \$150 million based on pre-set performance targets.

Firth Rixson makes rings, forgings and other metal products for the aerospace companies and other industries. It has operations in the United States, Asia and Europe.

The high cost of producing aluminum and falling prices for the metal have pushed Alcoa Inc. toward more finished products that are used in aircraft, autos and other goods.

In April, the company reported quarterly losses of

\$178 million. Aluminum prices haven't recovered since the recession and Alcoa has been idling smelters to reduce capacity and cut costs.

At the same time, Alcoa is shifting sideways toward components.

The company last month revealed that it would spend \$100 million to build factory in Indiana to make nickel-based engine parts for commercial airliners. With fuel prices rising, demand for more fuel-efficient planes has soared. Alcoa has said it expects the aerospace industry to grow by 8 percent to 9 percent this year.

Automakers, too, want to

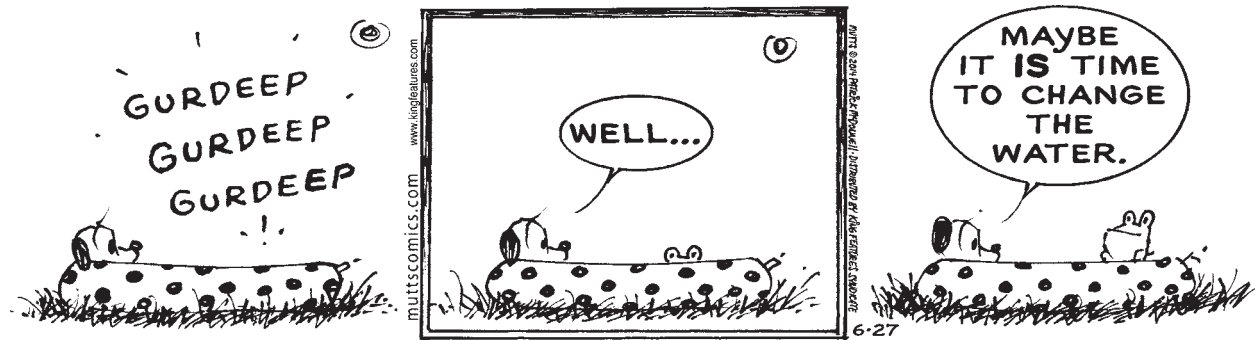
lighten up.

Around 30 percent of new vehicles are now rolling off the production line with aluminum hoods. Ford has unveiled an aluminum-body 2015 F-150 pickup that has all the power of the original, but weighs up to 700 pounds less. The truck goes on sale later this year.

The boards of directors for both companies have approved the Firth Rixson deal, which is expected to close by the end of this year.

Shares of Alcoa rose 75 cents to \$15.30 in premarket trading. If those prices hold, company shares could hit a four-year high. □

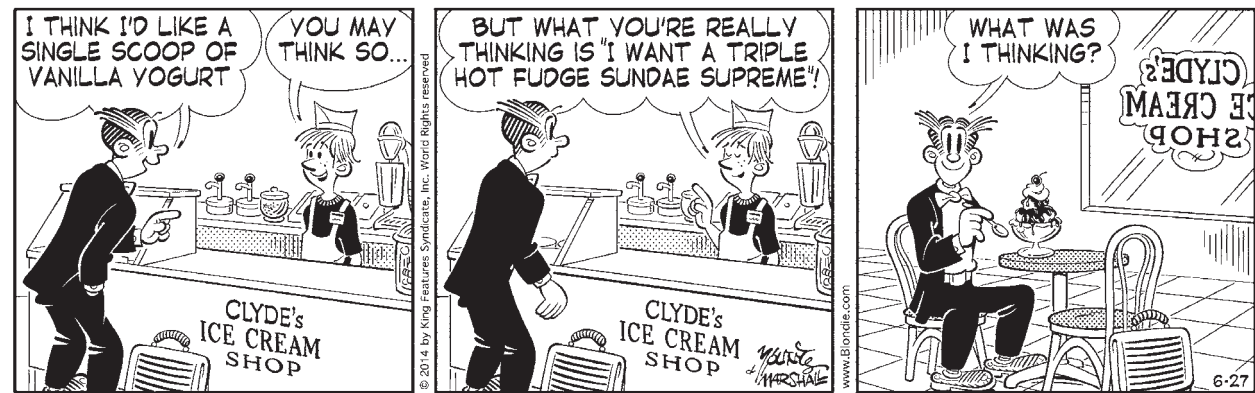
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



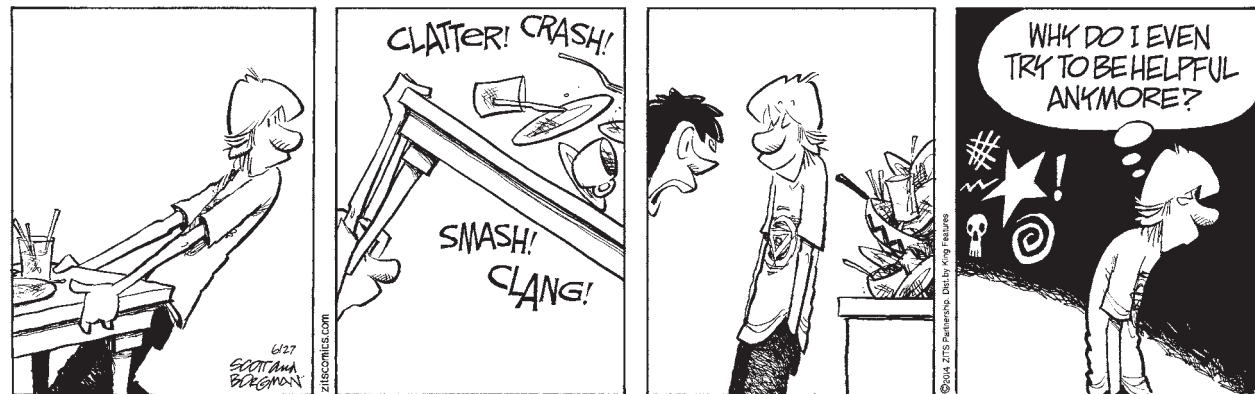
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 | | | | 8 | 6 | | 4 |
| 1 | | | | 4 | | | | |
| | | | | 9 | | 5 | | 1 |
| | | | | 2 | | | | 9 |
| | 1 | 9 | | | | 4 | 7 | |
| 8 | | | | 6 | | | | |
| 6 | | 3 | | 5 | | | | |
| | | | | 7 | | | | 8 |
| 4 | | 1 | 9 | | | | 2 | |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 |
| 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 9 |
| 4 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 9 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 |
| 7 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 2 |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 8 |
| 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 5 |

ACROSS

- 1 Scrub hard
- 6 Close noisily
- 10 Final
- 14 Poke; elbow
- 15 -Cola
- 16 "The Hawkeye State"
- 17 German submarine
- 18 ___ for; selects
- 19 Get larger
- 20 Small shellfish adhering to a boat's bottom
- 22 Actress Diane
- 24 Perished
- 25 Berlin's nation
- 26 Country in Central Europe
- 29 Hot ___ sundae
- 30 Long ___; in the distant past
- 31 American ___; Pago Pago's nation
- 33 Beginning; start
- 37 Swamp critter, for short
- 39 Provide with fresh weapons
- 41 Hired vehicle
- 42 Male singer
- 44 Birch tree with catkins
- 46 Get ___ of; shed
- 47 Actress Hayley
- 49 Argue the pros and cons of
- 51 Small waves
- 54 Diminish
- 55 Venerated
- 56 1 of 13 Original Colonies
- 60 Liver secretion
- 61 Spanish romantic artist
- 63 Colorful parrot
- 64 Lads
- 65 Jug
- 66 Golfer ___ Els
- 67 Little rascals
- 68 Cincinnati team
- 69 Canary food

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | 15 | | | | | 16 | | |
| 17 | | | | | 18 | | | | | 19 | | |
| 20 | | | | | 21 | | | 22 | 23 | | | |
| | | | | | 24 | | | 25 | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | 29 | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | 31 | 32 | | | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | |
| 37 | | | 38 | | 39 | | | 40 | | 41 | | |
| 42 | | | | 43 | 44 | | | 45 | | 46 | | |
| | | | 47 | 48 | | | | 49 | 50 | | | |
| 51 | 52 | 53 | | | | | | 54 | | | | |
| 55 | | | | | | | 56 | | | 57 | 58 | 59 |
| 60 | | | | | | 61 | 62 | | | 63 | | |
| 64 | | | | | | 65 | | | | 66 | | |
| 67 | | | | | | 68 | | | | 69 | | |

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

6/27/14

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

| | | |
|---------|---------|--------|
| RAPT | APART | EBBS |
| ABLE | RACER | MEAL |
| JEER | ENEMY | BAR |
| ADAMANT | ASTOUND | |
| IDA | VITAL | |
| ORATE | BIN | PUCKS |
| WADE | HAS | DESIRE |
| IDO | MONITOR | TON |
| NARROW | BEE | RENO |
| GREEN | ALE | CESAR |
| VERNE | BOA | |
| ANNOYED | PUNCHES | |
| LOOK | ARDOR | HADA |
| MANE | DEALS | EREI |
| SHED | SABOT | SEND |

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6/27/14

DOWN

- 1 Give the cold shoulder to

- 2 Actor ___ Gooding, Jr.
- 3 Smell
- 4 African nation
- 5 Keeps
- 6 Bawl out
- 7 Easy stride
- 8 Do something
- 9 Disguised
- 10 Tough band of body tissue
- 11 Vital artery
- 12 Faint
- 13 Brownish-orange
- 21 Wood for a hope chest
- 23 Thus
- 25 Sentry
- 26 Treaty
- 27 Meanie
- 28 North American diver
- 29 Barn newborns
- 32 Repasts
- 34 Actress ___ Rue
- 35 Leave a room
- 36 Laundry soap
- 38 Squeeze to make smaller
- 40 Military award

- 43 Make angry
- 45 Gives a new title to
- 48 Account book
- 50 "Look out!"
- 51 Synagogue leader
- 52 Saying; expression
- 53 Unwanted nasal growth
- 54 Has on; sports
- 56 Recolored
- 57 Skin problem
- 58 Sudden attack
- 59 Lamb bearers
- 62 Be in the red

US ends Philippines anti-terror force

Continued from page 9

It reflects shifting security strategies and focus in economically vibrant Asia, where new concerns such as multiple territorial conflicts involving China have alarmed Washington's allies entangled in the disputes.

A year after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the U.S. military established the task force in the southern Philippines to help ill-equipped Filipino forces contain a bloody rampage by Abu Sayyaf gunmen, who carried out bombings, terrorized entire towns and kidnapped more than 100 people, including three Americans. Although U.S. forces are barred by the Philippine Constitution from engaging in combat, the advice, training, military equipment and intelligence, including drone surveillance, that they provided helped the underfunded Philippine military beat back the Abu Sayyaf. U.S.-backed Philippine offensives whittled the militants' ranks from a few thousand

fighters — mostly drawn from desperately poor hinterland villages — to about 300 gunmen, who survive on extortion and kidnappings for ransom while dodging military assaults.

"Our partnership with the Philippine security forces has been successful in drastically reducing the capabilities of domestic and transnational terrorist groups in the Philippines," U.S. Embassy Press Attache Kurt Hoyer said in a written response to questions sent by email by The Associated Press.

The remaining terrorists, he said, "have largely devolved into disorganized groups resorting to criminal undertakings to sustain their activities."

That success has led U.S. military planners in coordination with their Philippine counterparts "to begin working on a transition plan where the JSOTF-P as a task force will no longer exist," Hoyer said, adding there were currently about 320 American military personnel left in the south. □

Classifieds



Marriott Aruba Surf

Club

GOLD Season
Oceanside \$9900
Oceanview \$9k
Oceanfront \$17k
3 BEDRM OV \$17k
PLATINUM Season
Oceanview \$16k
Oceanside \$17500
Oceanfront \$27,500
3 BEDRM OV \$27k
Plat. Plus Holiday 51
OV \$46k
Plat. Plus NY 52 OV
\$49k

Marriott Aruba Ocean

club

GOLD Season
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2B Oceanfront \$14500
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may 15 to dec. 13, also can be
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considered.
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202066

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6/28 to 7/5 Rms 96-1 and 96-2
lock off 1 br, floor 3 Studio
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floor unit 128, superior studio,
excellent ocean views, steps to
ocean and pool all amenities
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US 508 651 0016

202091

DIVI WEEK PHOENIX

wk 27, 7/5 to 12
ocean front studio Rm 804, all
amenities 4150\$ and
Divi Dutch Village wk 27
7/5 to 7/12, ground floor unit 13,
king bed queen sleeper. Steps
to pool and ocean 3150\$
e-mail rmwjmw@aol.com or
US 508 651 0016

202091

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Dr. Thuis

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| | |
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| ORANJESTAD | 582-4000 |
| NOORD | 587-0009 |
| STA. CRUZ | 585-4710 |
| SAVANETA | 584-7000 |
| SAN NICOLAS | 584-5000 |
| FIRE DEPT. | 115 |
| FIRE DEPT. | 582-1108 |
| POLIS TIPLINE | 11141 |
| HOSPITAL | 527-4000 |
| AMBULANCE | 582-1234 |
| SAN NICOLAS | |
| AMBULANCE | 584-5050 |

PHARMACY

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San Nicolas: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

| | |
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| INFORMATION | 118 |
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Iran tries to save Asiatic cheetah from extinction

NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran is rushing to try to save one of the world's critically endangered species, the Asiatic cheetah, and bring it back from the verge of extinction in its last remaining refuge.

The Asiatic cheetah, an equally fast cousin of the African cat, once ranged from the Red Sea to India, but its numbers shrunk over the past century to the point that it is now hanging on by a thin thread — an estimated 50 to 70 animals remaining in Iran, mostly in the east of the country. That's down from as many as 400 in the 1990s, its numbers plummeting due to poaching, the hunting of its main prey — gazelles — and encroachment on its habitat.

Cheetahs have been hit by cars and killed in fights with sheep dogs, since shepherds have permits to graze their flocks in areas where the cheetahs live, said Hossein Harati, the local head of the environmental department and park rangers at the Miandasht Wildlife Refuge in northeastern Iran.



In this Monday, May 26, 2014 photo, 7-year-old male Asiatic Cheetah, named 'Koushki,' hunts a rabbit at the Miandasht Wildlife Refuge in Jajarm, northeastern Iran.
Associated Press

At the reserve, rangers are caring for a male cheetah named Koushki, rescued by a local resident who bought it as a cub from a hunter who killed its mother around seven years ago, said Morteza Eslami Dehkordi, the director of Iranian Cheetah Society. "Since he was interested in environment protection, he bought the cub from him and handed it to the Department of Environment,"

he said. The cheetah was named after his rescuer's family name. With help from the United Nations, the Iranian government has stepped up efforts to rescue the species — also with an eye to the potential for tourism to see the rare cat. Rangers have been equipped with night vision goggles and cameras have been set up around cheetah habitats to watch

for any threat. They have also been fitting cheetahs with U.N.-supplied GPS collars so their movements can be tracked. Authorities built shelters in arid areas where the cats can have access to water. They've also reached out to nearby communities, training them how to deal with cheetahs and promising compensation for livestock killed by cheetahs to prevent shepherds or farm-

ers from hunting them.

Also, any development projects in cheetah habitats must be approved by Iran's Environmental Department.

The efforts were given a symbolic boost at the ongoing World Cup in Brazil, where Iran's team wore images of the cheetah on their uniform. The country has also named August 31 as Iran's National Cheetah Day since 2006.

Once known as "hunting leopards," Asiatic cheetahs were traditionally trained for emperors and kings in Iran and India to hunt gazelles. They disappeared across the Middle East about 100 years ago, although there were sightings in Saudi Arabia until the 1950s. They vanished in India in 1947 and ranged in Central Asia as far as Kazakhstan up to the 1980s. Gary Lewis, with the U.N. Development Program, said the dropping numbers in Iran are alarming.

"There are no other Asiatic cheetahs like the one that you have here in Iran, so it is essential for us as human beings to conserve our biodiversity by protecting this animal," he said. □

U.S. research reveals more about iconic orca whales

PHUONG LE

Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Southern resident killer whales are among the world's most contaminated marine mammals, with pollutants particularly high in the youngest whales, according to information released Wednesday by U.S. scientists who have

studied them for the past decade. Biologists with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration summarized a compilation of research findings that reveal the mysterious lives of a small population of endangered killer whales that frequent the Puget Sound off the northwest-

ern U.S. coast.

The striking black and white whales have come to symbolize the Pacific Northwest and play an important cultural and spiritual role for many Northwest tribes.

Despite recovery efforts that include new vessel rules and designated critical areas, scientists say more long-term work needs to be done to ensure survival.

The southern resident killer whale population, which numbered more than 140 animals decades ago, declined to a low of 71 in the 1970s when dozens of the mammals were captured live to be displayed at marine parks and aquariums across the country. In 2013, there were about 82.



This Jan. 18, 2014 photo, an endangered female orca leaps from the water while breaching in Puget Sound west of Seattle.
Associated Press

Local and regional efforts began in the early 2000s to conserve them. The federal government listed the population of orcas, known as southern resident killer whales, as endangered in 2005. Scientists came up with a recovery plan in 2008 after noting that animals face three threats — lack of prey, pollution and disturbance from vessel traffic. From 2003 to 2012, NOAA spent about \$15.7 million

on research and conservation projects, the agency said. "We are in a much better situation with the information we have now," Lynne Barre, NOAA Fisheries Seattle branch chief, said during a telephone call with reporters.

Mysteries remain, though, including why this population hasn't grown; why certain whales die; and how high contamination levels impact a whale's health and reproduction. □



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Beverly Hills Cop sequel being shot in Detroit

DETROIT (AP) — The state of Michigan has approved \$13.5 million in incentives for the fourth installment of Eddie Murphy's Beverly Hills Cop franchise, which will be filmed in and around Detroit, officials announced Thursday.

Murphy will return to his role as Axel Foley, Brett Ratner will direct and Jerry Bruckheimer will produce the film for Paramount Pictures, according to the Michigan Film Office. The office said it estimates that filmmakers will spend \$56.6 million in the state and employ about 352 Michigan workers. It's set for a March 2016 release. "We are excited to welcome Axel Foley and the Beverly Hills Cop franchise back to Michigan," film office Director Margaret

O'Riley said in a statement. "This project will highlight locations throughout metro Detroit that speak to the city's heritage while making significant investments in the community by hiring Michigan workers and local businesses."

In the update to the franchise, the Foley character leaves his work as a Beverly Hills police detective "during the coldest winter on record to navigate the new rules and old enemies in one of America's most tenacious cities," the film office said. Murphy starred in the first Beverly Hills Cop movie in 1984, also produced by Bruckheimer, and it was that year's top-grossing movie in North America at \$235 million. Sequels followed in 1987 and 1994.



In this Jan. 20, 2014 file photo, actress Lindsay Lohan addresses reporters during a news conference at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Associated Press.

Lindsay Lohan to make stage debut in London

LONDON (AP) — Lindsay Lohan is heading for the London stage — in a play about the hysteria of Hollywood.

Producers announced Thursday that Lohan will make her professional stage debut in September in David Mamet's satirical drama "Speed-the-Plow."

The "Mean Girls" and "Freaky Friday" star, who has had well-documented troubles with alcohol, drugs and the law, will take the relatively small but complex role of an ambitious secretary in Mamet's drama about two Hollywood producers trying to close a major deal.



Singer Phil Collins speaks during his donation announcement Thursday, June 26, 2014, in front of the Alamo, in which he will be donating his personal Texas Revolution-era artifacts collections to the State. Associated Press

Phil Collins donates Texas Revolution artifacts to Alamo

WILL WEISSERT

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Phil Collins, the British 1980s music icon was at the 1836 Battle of the Alamo and Texas Revolutionary shrine in downtown San Antonio on Thursday, announcing the donation of his collection of related artifacts — one so vast it's considered the world's largest such private collection.

Collins, the 63-year-old Genesis singer-drummer, joked he'd spent "all the money that I made from music" on 200-plus pieces related to the battle where 1,500 Mexican troops laid siege to 200 Texans. He said he wanted to ensure the collection was better cared-for in the future.

"Some people would buy Ferraris, some people would buy houses, I bought old bits of metal and old bits of paper," Collins said. "It's at my home, in my basement in Switzerland. I look at it every day, but no one else was enjoying it."

Collins has been an Alamo aficionado since growing up in London and watching actor Fess Parker portray Davy Crockett in a 1950s

Disney miniseries.

"I've had a love affair with this place since I was about 5 years old," said Collins, who sweated in a button-down shirt and spectacles before a cheering crowd of dignitaries and tourists who gathered in front of the Alamo for the occasion.

"It was something that I used to go and play in the garden with my soldiers."

Collins said his favorite artifact was also his first, purchased for him in the 1990s by his then-wife: a receipt for the sale of the saddle of John W. Smith, an Alamo messenger who rode through Mexican lines and pleaded for reinforcements before the battle.

The collection also includes a rifle owned by Crockett, his leather shot pouch and a pair of powder horns Crockett is believed to have given to a Mexican officer before his death — as well as muskets and musket balls that belonged to Mexican soldiers.

Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson said Collins would pay to ship the artifacts to Texas with the understanding that the

state would use public funding and private donations to eventually spruce up the Alamo site — including erecting a building to house the collection. In the meantime, some items will be displayed as soon as October.

The collection is worth millions but Collin said, "Being British, we don't talk about that kind of thing." He promised to keep buying artifacts and "once I've lived with whatever I buy for a month, I'll ship it over here."

Collins mostly retired from music in 2011 but first came to the Alamo in 1973, while on his first U.S. tour with Genesis. He, singer Peter Gabriel and the tour manager had three days off and each got to pick a destination. Gabriel picked Hot Springs National Park in Arkansas and Collins chose San Antonio.

"I was just spellbound when I first saw it in person," he recalled. "Having lived all my life, to see it in books and movies and the pictures in magazines, it was really quite extraordinary."

Summer TV: It should come with danger warnings

FRAZIER MOORE

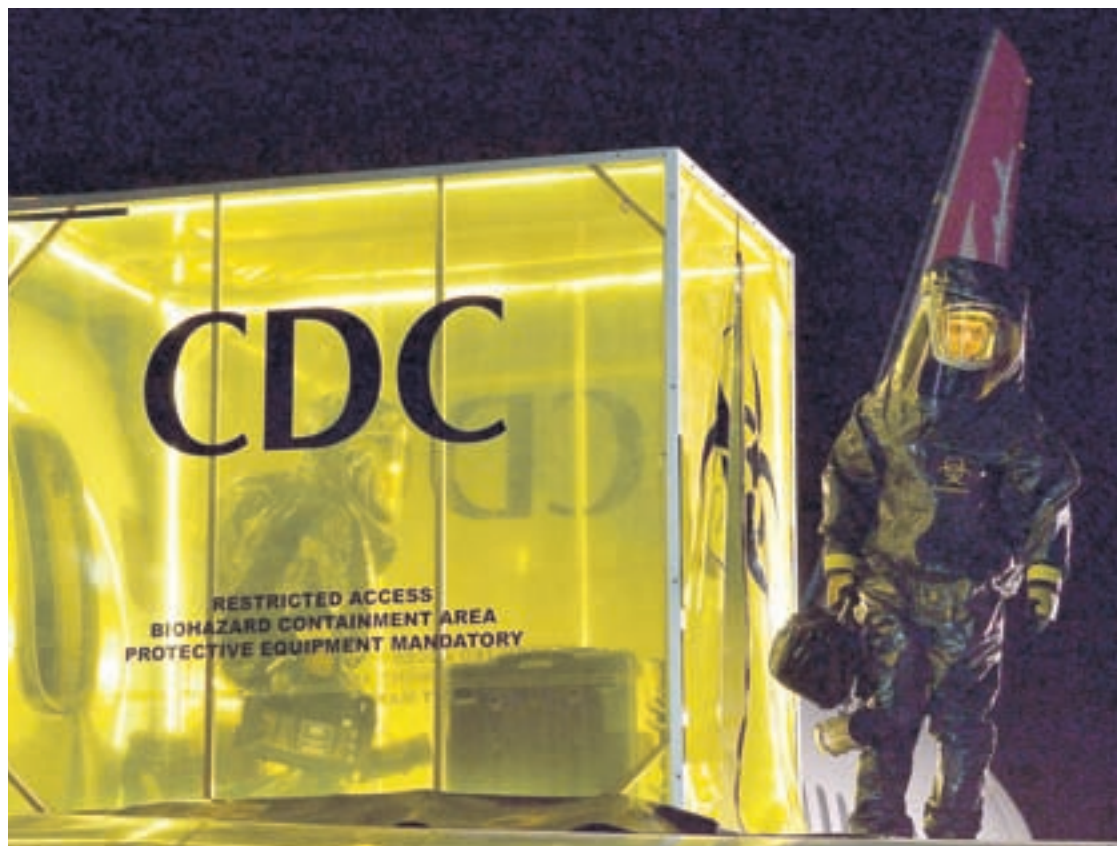
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — It's a frightful world on TV these days.

A rash of scripted summer thrillers cautions viewers to batten down the hatches. Watch out who you let nibble on your neck! Hold your loved ones tight before they vanish into thin air! And with all the deadly viruses at large, you better bathe in Purell!

A certain brand of TV drama has always kept its audience on high alert, at least as far back as "The Twilight Zone." But these days, with agencies hacking your email, new diseases cropping up, ice caps melting and drones overhead, viewers are sitting ducks for the titillation of dramatized threats to offer welcome distraction from the real thing.

The message is clear: Danger lurks everywhere. On your airline flight, you might get something even worse than the food, resulting in a plane that lands at JFK full of passengers-turned-corpses. That's the big start of "The Strain," premiering July 13. And things quickly worsen. Side effects for each victim on this FX series include rapid hair loss and a blood-sucking proboscis. This apocalypse has been loosed by evil forces.



This image released by FX shows Corey Stoll, right, in a scene from the new series "The Strain," premiering July 13. The vampire thriller begins when a mysterious viral outbreak spreads to New York. Stoll stars as the head of a Centers for Disease Control task force battling this global threat. Associated Press

The only hope for humanity's salvation is Dr. Ephraim Goodweather (played by series star Corey Stoll). He vows to save the day. Same with the pandemic on TNT's new "The Last Ship" (airing Sundays). By chance, an Arctic-stationed Navy destroyer has evaded this mass outbreak, leaving the crew with the duty of saving what's left of

humanity. Good thing they just happen to have on-board a renowned paleo-microbiologist, Dr. Rachel Scott (played by Rhona Mitra). She's humanity's only hope for salvation. She vows to save the day. This virus of unknown origin has already killed 80 percent of the world's population. By contrast, a relatively

meager 2 percent have disappeared on "The Leftovers," abracadabra, with no warning. But the 98 percent left behind are reeling from the mass exodus. This HBO series (premiering Sunday) focuses on what's left of tiny Mapleton, New York, as citizens scratch their heads and feud about the root cause: rapture, or random catastrophe?

Meanwhile, birth control — in outer space — poses a dilemma on the CBS drama "Extant" (premiering July 9).

Halle Berry plays an astronaut who returns home from a yearlong solo mission only to discover that, on her flight, she was somehow impregnated. Pretty awkward, since she has a husband who was waiting faithfully back at home — and who, like her, had long believed she was unable to conceive.

Could she be the victim of an extraterrestrial roofer? But who's the dad? Something sinister seems to be afoot, with a NASA official part of the mischief. And to make matters worse, the adorable robot child she and hubby are raising as their flesh-and-blood son just might be a psychopath, not to mention the harbinger of a robot uprising.

Is there any refuge from robot bullies, killer germs and cosmic abductions?

Well, you might look to Chester's Mill, Maine, a once-serene village that was cut off from the outside world, with no notice or explanation, by a Pyrex-on-steroids prison.

This, of course, is the plight on "Under the Dome," the CBS hit returning for its second season June 30. □



This May 15, 2014 file photo shows actor Seth MacFarlane at the World Premiere of "A Million Ways To Die In The West" in Westwood, Calif. Associated Press

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeVar Burton's "Reading Rainbow" fundraising effort is getting a boost from a

generous pal, Seth MacFarlane.

MacFarlane has promised to match up to \$1 million in pledges made on the Kickstarter website, Burton

'Reading Rainbow' gets hand from Seth MacFarlane

said in a statement Thursday. MacFarlane's offer is in effect through 3 p.m. EDT on July 2, when the online fundraiser is to conclude. Burton said he was left nearly speechless by the "extraordinary generosity" of his friend, the TV and movie writer-producer-actor whose credits include "Ted" and "Family Guy." MacFarlane's spokeswoman confirmed the offer. MacFarlane jumped in after hearing that "Reading Rainbow" needed to raise at least \$5 million, Burton said. The Kickstarter cam-

paign's initial goal was \$1 million.

More than \$4 million had been pledged by 83,000-plus contributors as of Thursday afternoon.

Burton, star of "Roots and "Star Trek: Next Generation," was host of the children's literacy program that aired on public television through 2009. "Reading Rainbow" was launched as a best-selling tablet app in 2012, and aims to expand its reach with a \$5 monthly online version.

An educator-specific format will be created for

schools and made available free to at least 1,500 of the neediest classrooms, according to RRRKidz, the for-profit company co-founded by Burton.

"It was my mother who taught me that, by picking up a book, I could 'go anywhere' and 'be anything,'" Burton said in a posting on Kickstarter.

Contributors can claim rewards ranging from autographed memorabilia to a private dinner with Burton to a chance to put on the visor that the actor wore on "Star Trek." □

Understanding ISIL and SISI



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN
© 2014 New York Times

The past month has presented the world with what the Israeli analyst Orit Perlov describes as the two dominant Arab governing models: ISIL and SISI. ISIL, of course, is the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the bloodthirsty Sunni militia that has gouged out a new state from Sunni areas in Syria and Iraq. SISI, of course, is Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, the new strongman/president of Egypt, whose regime debuted this week by shamefully sentencing three Al-Jazeera journalists to prison terms on patently trumped-up charges - a great nation acting so small. ISIL and SISI, argues Perlov, a researcher on Middle East social networks at Tel Aviv University's Institute for National Security Studies, are just flip sides of the same coin: one elevates "God" as the arbiter of all political life and the other "the national state."

Both have failed and will continue to fail - and require coercion to stay in power - because they cannot deliver for young Arabs and Muslims what they need most: the education, freedom and jobs to realize their full potential and the ability to participate as equal citizens in their political life.

We are going to have to wait for a new generation that "puts society in the center," argues Perlov, a new Arab/Muslim generation that asks not "how can we serve God or how can we serve the state but how can they serve us."

Perlov argues that these governing models - hyper-Islamism (ISIL) driven by a war against "takfiris," or apostates, which is how Sunni Muslim extremists refer to Shiite Muslims; and hyper-nationalism (SISI) driven by a war against Islamist "terrorists," which is what the Egyptian state calls the Muslim Brotherhood - need to be exhausted to make room for a third option built on pluralism in society, religion and thought.

The Arab world needs to finally puncture the twin myths of the military state (SISI) or the Islamic state (ISIL) that will bring prosperity, stability and dignity. Only when the general populations "finally admit that they are both failed and unworkable models," argues Perlov, might there be "a chance to see this region move to the 21st century."

The situation is not totally bleak. You have two emergent models, both frail and neither perfect, where Muslim Middle East nations have built decent, democratizing governance, based on society and with some political, cultural and religious pluralism: Tunisia and Kurdistan.

Again both are works in progress, but what is important is that they did emerge from the societies themselves. You also have the relatively soft monarchies - like Jordan and Morocco - that are at least experimenting at the margins with more participatory governance, allow for some opposition and do not rule with the brutality of the secular autocrats.

"Both the secular authoritarian model - most recently represented by SISI - and the radical religious model - represented now by ISIS - have failed," adds Marwan Muasher, the former foreign minister of Jordan and author of "The Second Arab Awakening and the Battle for Pluralism," using another acronym to refer to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. "They did because they have not addressed peoples' real needs: improving the quality of their life, both in economic and development terms, and also in feeling they are part of the decision-making process. Both models have been exclusionist, presenting themselves as the holders of absolute truth and of the solution to all society's problems."

But the Arab public "is not stupid," Muasher added. "While we will continue to see exclusionist discourses in much of the Arab world for the foreseeable future, results will end up trumping ideology. And results can only come from policies of inclusion, that would give all forces a stake in the system, thereby producing stability, checks and balances, and ultimately prosperity. ISIS and SISI cannot win. Unfortunately, it might take exhausting all other options before a critical mass is developed that internalizes this basic fact. That is the challenge of the new generation in the Arab world, where 70 percent of the population is under 30 years of age. The old generation, secular or religious, seems to have learned nothing from the failure of the postindependence era to achieve sustainable development, and the danger of exclusionist policies."

Indeed, the Iraq founded in 1921 is gone with the wind. The new Egypt imagined in Tahrir Square is stillborn. Too many leaders and followers in both societies seem intent on giving their failed ideas of the past another spin around the block before, hopefully, they opt for the only idea that works: pluralism in politics, education and religion. This could take a while, or not. I don't know.

We tend to make every story about us. But this is not all about us. To be sure, we've done plenty of ignorant things in Iraq and Egypt.

But we also helped open their doors to a different future, which their leaders have slammed shut for now. Going forward, where we see people truly committed to pluralism, we should help support them. And where we see islands of decency threatened, we should help protect them. But this is primarily about them, about their need to learn to live together without an iron fist from the top, and it will happen only when and if they want it to happen.



New Leader, New Attack on Exports



JOE NOCERA
© 2014 New York Times

In the real world, markets aren't perfect.

If they were, you wouldn't need Fannie Mae to play such a vital role in housing finance. You wouldn't need government to fund research. And you certainly wouldn't rely on an export credit agency to help promote American exports and create American jobs. Surely, the private sector can handle that.

And, indeed, in some 98 percent of American export transactions, the private sector does just fine. But then there's the other 2 percent. There's the small business that wants to expand abroad but can't find a bank willing to take a risk on a newbie exporter. There's the midsize manufacturer for whom financing insurance by the government is a necessity - in large part because its competitors in other countries are able to offer prospective buyers government financing insurance. And there are big companies like Boeing that operate in a global industry where the assistance of an export credit agency is baked into the business model.

Our country's export credit agency is called the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Last year, it helped 3,413 small companies start or expand their export business. It also helped Boeing land aircraft sales against Airbus. In the aftermath of the financial crisis, the Ex-Im Bank stepped in because banks had

become skittish. It exists precisely because markets aren't perfect. Or as Douglas Holtz-Eakin, the prominent conservative economist - and president of the American Action Forum - put it to me Monday: "I share the belief that I would like to live in a world without the Ex-Im Bank. Unfortunately, that is not the world we live in."

When I first wrote about the Ex-Im Bank two weeks ago, I did so because the bank's late September reauthorization, which never used to be in question, was under serious assault by such ultraconservative groups as the Club for Growth, Americans for Prosperity and Heritage Action. They made the fundamentally ideological argument that the bank was putting taxpayers' money at risk handling tasks the private sector was better equipped to handle. It is not true, but it made for a glorious Tea Party sound bite.

My assumption, however, was that cooler heads would eventually prevail, and the Export-Import Bank would be reauthorized. That's what happened in 2012, which was the first time the bank came under ideological attack.

On Sunday, however, that calculus changed. Kevin McCarthy, the California Republican who was elected to replace Eric Cantor as the House majority leader, said on "Fox News Sunday" that "I think Ex-Im Bank is ... something the government does not have to be involved in." He added that he wouldn't support reauthorization. Two years ago, McCarthy did support reauthorization, and it is pretty obvious what transpired. In order to gain the votes of the Tea Party conservatives in Congress, McCarthy chose to sell American exports down the river.

Business is now up in arms. On Monday, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers held a conference call to decry the threat to the Export-Import Bank and promised a "full-court press" to get Congress to take up the reauthorization. (Late Monday, The Wall Street Journal

added fuel to the fire, reporting that four Ex-Im Bank employees had been removed or suspended amid investigations.)

Meanwhile, Holtz-Eakin's group, American Action Forum, has done some solid research knocking down many of the ideological arguments.

For instance, the Ex-Im Bank's opponents claim that the assistance given to Boeing is nothing more than "crony capitalism." But Andy Winkler of American Action Forum notes that "Ex-Im's activities reflect the structure of U.S. trade itself, supporting a large number of small and medium-sized exporters, but with the largest dollar volumes concentrated among large firms."

Then there are small and medium-size exporters themselves. One former small businessman is Chris Collins, a freshman Republican whose district includes Buffalo, New York. Before being elected to Congress, he owned a company called Audubon Machinery Corp., which got a combination of guarantees and insurance from the Export-Import Bank worth \$8.33 million between 2007 and 2014.

Needless to say, this made him the target of Heritage Action. But when I spoke to him Monday afternoon, he was completely unapologetic. Indeed, he was in the process of sending a letter, signed by 41 Republican congressmen, asking McCarthy and Speaker John Boehner to allow a reauthorization vote.

What he learned over the years, he told me, "is the importance of the Ex-Im Bank for companies with \$10 million to \$20 million in sales, like ours." For instance, banks worry about accounts receivables from companies in developing nations. "A company can pay a fee to the Ex-Im Bank and get accounts receivable insurance. Without the Ex-Im, some of our business would be all but impossible."

"I was really caught off guard when Heritage went after me," he said as our conversation was winding down. Then he added, "They must not understand what is required to be an exporter."

Tavern on the Green:

A Celebrity Steps Back Into the Spotlight

PETE WELLS

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - Restaurant critics are supposed to be impartial, but I can't help feeling some proprietary

imagined by a 6-year-old princess with a high fever. And you may hear a few teaspoons of added regret when I say that it's not a good restaurant yet by any

Still, compared with its last days before its death from insolvency in 2009 made it the subject of countless dry-eyed eulogies, Tavern on the Green is much,

the Tavern. Sparks' plates are substantial, and any leanings toward fanciness are confined to the perimeters of the plate. The menu does not say, "Aunt

poached from a summer camp in Maine and given a crash course in big-city restaurant customs during the bus ride down Interstate 95. One of them thought everything we did and said was "wonderful": our clever preference for sparkling water over still, our bold decision to look at dessert menus. Another picked up a few crumbs from the leather-topped table with his fingertips, then left the rest. Somebody showed up the instant the plates had been set down to ask brightly, "How does everything look?"

I can't blame her for not asking how it tasted. The answer may have made it hard to stay chipper.

Prying tiny quail bones away from meat that was griddled until it was as dry as a week-old English muffin wasn't very wonderful. Neither was the greasy scattering of mushrooms and gummy, flavorless farro strozzapreti baked under a mound of ricotta that had no idea it was supposed to act like a sauce.

The ceviches aren't ceviches; they're rough-sawn carpaccios of seafood covered with garnishes that are either thuggish (harsh pickled onions and acid, stale fried garlic chips on yellowfin tuna) or useless (avocado lumps on salmon). Then acid is thrown at them. The directive seems to be: terminate with extreme prejudice.

Is it too late to bring back the sheep? No, no. Patience. Maybe the food, which isn't especially ornate, still needs to come down a notch or two. The pork chop could lose the stringy, sour, half-raw roasted rhubarb. The brisket in a sweetish barbecue sauce, which you'd be happy enough to find at your local brew pub, could do without the comatose potato salad. And the menu would be easier to handle if Sparks didn't organize it by heat source. ("I don't really care what I eat, as long as it was cooked on a plancha!") □



Tavern on the Green in New York, June 17, 2014. Reopened just two months ago, the Central Park classic is woven into the life of the park more fully than in its last incarnation, which closed in 2009.

(Joshua Bright/The New York Times)

interest in Tavern on the Green. Not a financial interest, except insofar as a profitable Tavern is good for the city's budget, which, in a fractions-of-pennies way, is good for me as a grumpy taxpayer. It's more like a civic interest. Tavern on the Green belongs to the city and sits inside the most beautiful public park in which I've ever rowed, cycled, struck out in softball, misidentified a confusing fall warbler and illegally consumed alcoholic beverages. I'd let the city keep those fractional pennies if that helped Tavern on the Green live up to its setting. So you may detect an extra cup or two of enthusiasm in my voice when I say that under its new management, the building is woven into the life of the park more fully than in its last incarnation, a wedding-cake palace as

measure.

The place reopened just two months ago, which may not be enough time to get a 700-seat Winnebago like Tavern up to highway speed. In time, the kitchen may figure out how to get plates on the table while they are still hot. The chef, Katy Sparks, may rethink some of the overworked, underdelivering recipes. The hosts may learn how to read their reservations screen so they don't tell a customer he's the first to arrive and ask him to wait while the rest of his party is already in the restaurant's inner recesses, wondering if he's gone for a carriage ride. Somebody may tell the servers not to drop the check while people are still eating dessert. The sommeliers may turn down the thermostat so that red wines aren't the temperature of a kiddie pool.

much improved.

One of its real joys is seeing the exuberant Victorian building, constructed in 1871 as a dormitory for the grass-munching residents of Sheep Meadow, restored down to the last copper drainpipe. The snaggletoothed slate roof has been to the orthodontist. The Parks Department, determined to end the Tavern's sparkly isolation, tore down the Crystal Room, which used to galumph halfway across the courtyard. The Berlin Wall of giant topiary animals that blocked the view of Sheep Meadow is gone, too. Now if you eat on the terrace, you can see the runners and the pedicab drivers on West Drive, and they can see you.

The restaurant's new operators, Jim Caiola and David Salama, have tried to put the tavern back into

Althea's 80th birthday" as much as it says: "Hi there. If you happen to be going to Lincoln Center, don't forget about me!"

The glittering, un-tavern-like interior encrustations have been scraped off. Next to the entrance is a bar shaped like a race-track next to a convincing artificial marble fireplace flanked by carved rams' heads. It's dark and reassuring, just the kind of sheltered saloon you'd want to end up in after working up a thirst in the park.

In the main dining room, though, the tavern motif explodes in a whiteout. Everything is bright and off-white: tables, chairs, banquettes, floors. It looks like the indoor-outdoor, all-day, casual-dining option at a family-friendly resort in Florida. The servers have the determined enthusiasm of counselors